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Responsibility of the Insane xx

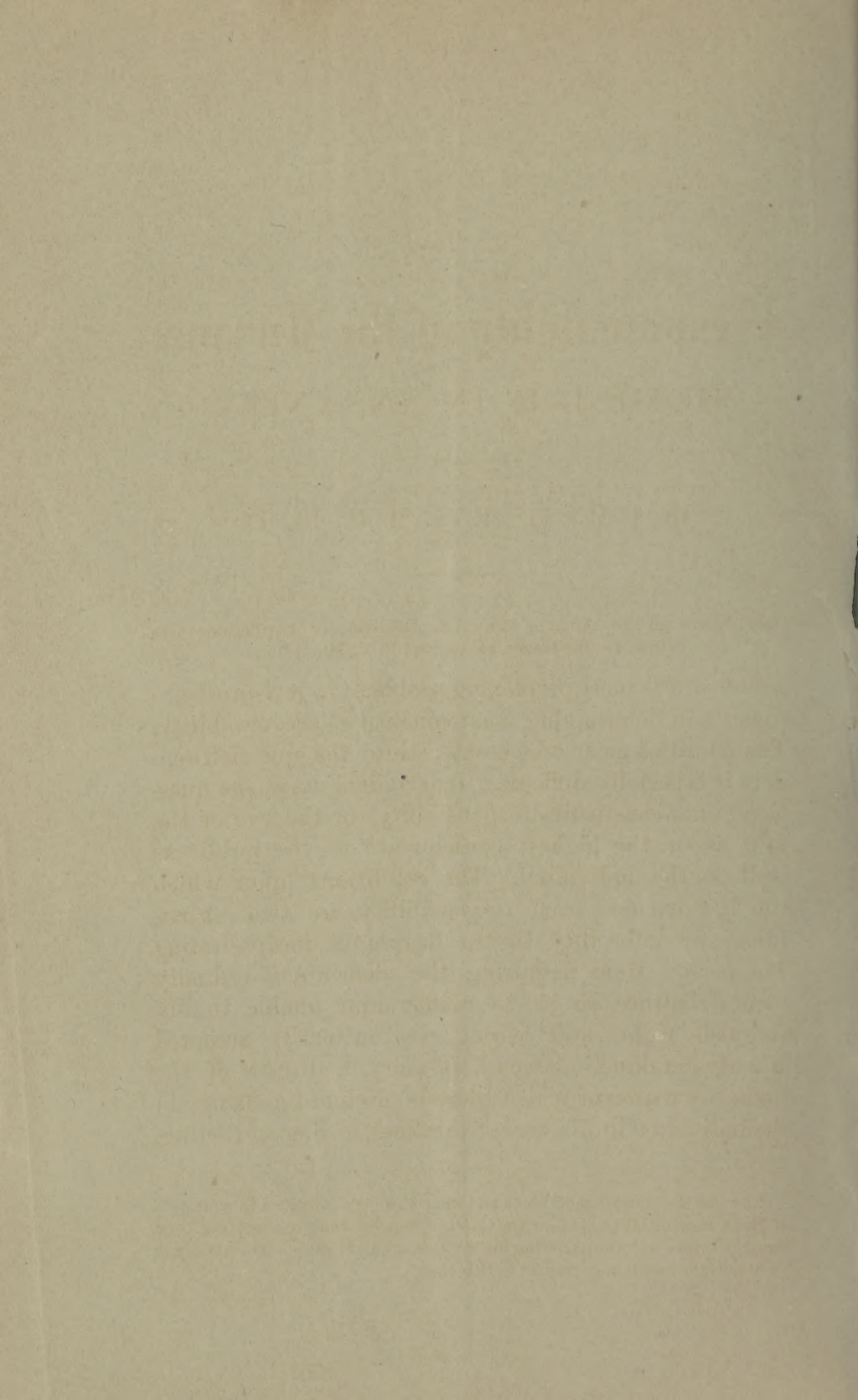
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HOMICIDE IN INSANITY.

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BY JOHN P. GRAY, M. D., LL. D.
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Responsibility of the Insane.

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By JOHN P. GRAY, M. D., LL. D.

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One of the most perplexing problems in jurisprudence consists in determining what constitutes accountability. The moral element which enters into the question renders it especially difficult. In criminal cases, the question, what constitutes responsibility, in the eye of the law, is of the highest consequence to the public as well as the individual. The conditions upon which the law excuses from responsibility are two. First, idiocy or imbecility to the degree of incapacitating the person from acquiring the elements of ordinary mental culture, so as to render him unable to distinguish right and wrong, as ordinarily accepted among mankind. Second, insanity, a disease of the brain, by reason of which there is produced a change in the individual in his way of thinking, feeling and acting,

[How far the education of idiots and imbeciles may influence the question of their responsibility, before the law, is a point that has not yet been brought before our courts, either in civil or criminal cases. It certainly is an important question in respect to this class.]



and in consequence of which the judgment becomes so obscured that he is unable to distinguish between right and wrong, or to realize the moral quality of any particular act. By this, is not meant the ability to differentiate, merely between right and wrong in the abstract, (for the insane generally are able to do this,) but to know the nature and quality of an act so as to be able to exercise a choice of action, under freedom of will. This implies a power of acting and thinking rightly, independently of any overshadowing effect of disease tending to disturb the operations of the mind. This constitutes the legal test of responsibility.

The question, therefore, in a case of homicide, is not simply whether insanity exists and is *ipso facto* a bar to punishment, but whether there is insanity of such character and degree as to render the person legally incompetent to commit a crime. The law undertakes, through the courts, to set forth what legal competency is.

If any one should give himself the labor of reading carefully the opinions of courts on this point for the past half century, he would settle down to the conviction that judges differ as well as doctors. However, courts have this great advantage that the latest decision of the highest tribunal, however it may differ from preceding ones, and without reference to the eminence of the judges rendering the judgment, is the law until changed by further decisions.

Indeed, a careful reader must be impressed with the fact that there has not been a satisfactory formulation of opinion on this question by courts. "While experts may be called to testify as to states of mind and conditions of health, it is for the court to declare whether such states and conditions constitute irresponsibility."

Wharton and Stillé, § 193.

I have said the moral element renders the question difficult. Two elements must enter into any attempt at elaborating a formula or definition, viz.: The ability to judge of the moral quality of an act, and the ability to control one's action in accordance therewith, in the particular instance in regard to which the question of responsibility arises. It is plain that any inability of moral judgment or of control, to constitute such irresponsibility, must be the offspring of disease of the brain. There is a wide difference between such a condition and that kind of delinquency, which has its foundation in ignorance, in vice, or in any voluntary abandonment to irregular, dissipated or vicious habits of thought and living, where habitual indulgence in criminal thoughts and acts obscures or obliterates the moral sense and thus incapacitates for the true perception between right and wrong, and impairs the ability to properly choose or direct one's actions.

"If the speculations of the school or closet lead us to the belief that insanity may sometimes occur through the dominating power of a mental habit, without the intervention of disease, such opinions will be found foreign to the practical questions to be decided in courts of criminal justice. However interesting it may be to the psychologist to trace the growth of a vicious indulgence in some passion or instinct through all the gradations of mental habit, until he feels himself justified in denominating the result, a state of insanity; he must not forget that in the trials of criminal supposed to be insane, the question is not alone respecting the existence of insanity, but respecting that of irresponsibility also. The man who would claim for a criminal, exemption from punishment on the plea of insanity, arising from the vicious and uncontrolled indulgence in some passion or emotion, would have to establish not only the existence of such a form of insanity, but to defend two other positions; namely, that a man is not responsible for conduct resulting from vicious habits of mind, provided the latter gain over him a complete mastery, and compel him, contrary to all dictates of prudence, to actions injurious to society and ruinous to himself. And secondly, that neither the fear, nor the infliction of

punishment, will prove efficacious in preventing the repetition of such acts.

It would be a puerile employment to show the untenable nature of such positions, and it must suffice to express in this place our conviction, that insanity resulting solely from vicious habits of mind without disease, cannot confer irresponsibility for criminal acts; and that punishment, or more properly speaking, corrective discipline, is competent to restrain its mischievous manifestations.

Cicero says, that all fools are insane; and Hale, that all criminals are insane; and when folly and criminality have reached their climax and borne their fruits, it is not an edifying spectacle to behold the psychological physician stepping forward for the purpose of claiming immunity for the offender.

The element of disease therefore in abnormal conditions of mind is the touchstone of irresponsibility, and the detection of its existence or non-existence is the peculiar and oftentimes the difficult test of the psychopathist."—*Bucknill Criminal Lunacy*, pp. 20.

This distinction between actual disease on the one hand, and mere demoralization on the other, should always be kept in mind. So also a vicious education from childhood, or entire ignorance, can not, in law, excuse from the consequences of criminal acts, although their subjects may be able to distinguish but very imperfectly between right and wrong. There may be such a suppression or perversion of moral sense as to prevent or confuse the exercise of ordinary judgment, as to the rights of others. Such was probably the case in the boy Pomeroy, of Boston, who was recently tried and convicted of torturing, and finally murdering children. I recall a similiar case, that of Mike Ferguson, who was hung in Ithaca, a few years ago, for murdering two persons, in the most brutal manner, and afterwards setting fire to the house. After sentence, an appeal was made for commutation to imprisonment for life, and the Governor directed me to examine him. I found him weak-minded and incapacitated for the acquisition of the rudiments of education,

to a marked degree, but he was not an idiot and was not insane. He knew the consequences of such a crime, and endeavored to conceal it by burning the buildings and escaping. He carried away the axe with which he committed the crime, and dropped it into the middle of the lake. He was indifferent to his fate, said he should do the same thing again under similar circumstances. I considered him a pronounced imbecile, and recommended commutation, but the Governor did not deem it advisable to interfere with the course of the law, as the law, through the court, had already considered the question of his condition. If the prisoner knew what the law was, and the consequences of his acts, and sought to evade these consequences, by concealment of the crime, and was neither an idiot nor insane, he ought to suffer the penalty of the law.

There may be, and there doubtless are such cases, in which clemency is proper, and can be exercised in the interests of humanity and good government, but they represent no phase of insanity, since the element of disease is not present.

The character of an act, however atrocious, can not become an element or factor, in the question of irresponsibility, except as shown to be the offspring of disease of the brain. I use the words disease of the brain, as I do not wish to be understood, even by implication, as having any sympathy with the doctrines of a reflex or spinal-cord mind. Insanity consisting of a group of physical conditions, and mental manifestations, and being a departure of the individual from his normal standard of physical and mental condition, a standpoint of judgment must be chosen for each individual case. Insanity is not a given sum of mental weakness and aberration. It is variable as found in different individuals. Furthermore, it can not be expressed in any

fixed formula of language, by setting forth certain characteristics, as present or absent. Medical science has aimed to give such a formula or definition, as would embrace a central, universal, dominating characteristic, something pathognomonic, around which the peculiarities of individual cases might be grouped, but even this has not been successfully accomplished. Indeed, at the starting point we are met with the fact that doctors, and especially experts, are not agreed as to what insanity is, much less responsibility. Turning to works on insanity, and particularly to works on jurisprudence, one can not but be struck, not only with the failure to give a satisfactory definition of insanity, but with the positive disagreement as to its essential nature. Whether it affects the whole mind, or is partial, only affecting certain faculties, so-called; whether it is an actual disease of the mind, and may exist independently of morbid conditions of body, or, whether the whole man, body and mind is not merely a physical thing, with only such responsibility as social law or expediency may give it. While doctors disagree, the courts assume all the responsibility. They lay down the test of right and wrong as heretofore stated, and reserve the right and power of saying what insanity before the law is, and what responsibility is. They ask the intent of the crime? From what it springs? The moving incentive or motive? These are all embraced in the power of seeing the right and wrong of a given act. The legal test does not raise the question, as to whether the individual has or has not a general knowledge of right and wrong, but simply as to the act for which he stands charged, and makes excuse. It is no answer that the insane generally know right and wrong, and are largely governed by the same motives by which they were governed in health. Lawyers do often ask

this question of experts, and it is generally answered in the affirmative. This test suggests no conflict between law and medical science. The plea in defense, is incapacity, loss of direction of mind, loss of power over the will, insanity, a man not himself, really in essence the same as the legal test suggests or demands. To declare a man insane, would seem to be sufficient to cast a doubt on all his acts. However, it is claimed, as before suggested, by medical men, who are recognized as experts, that the whole judgment is not necessarily clouded, that parts of the mind are clear and untouched, that a man may have an unclouded intellect, but be insane in his moral nature. That obscuration and aberration, are not so much questions of degree, as of kind; that insanity is of two kinds, one of the intellectual, and one of the moral man, or intellectual and moral insanity. Further, that these two kinds might be present in the same individual, in various forms and combinations, or that a man might have various forms of either kind; that only a part of the intellectual nature might be involved, or a part of the moral nature, or a little of both.

To those who believe in the absolute divisibility of mind, who are truly phrenologists, such a theory must be acceptable. By those who believe in the unity of mind, and hold that the mental being consists of a moral and intellectual nature indissolubly combined, such a theory could not be received or entertained.

Now if insanity has a physical basis and is actually a disease of the brain, which is now generally admitted, it ought not to make any difference in determining as to responsibility, whether the individual is intellectually or morally insane. In fact to be morally insane would be the worse of the two. Right and wrong are moral considerations. Mere intellect can not take into consideration the moral quality of the act. Bucknill says:

"The sense of duty, the feeling of right and wrong, is an innate principle of the human mind, implanted by the Almighty, and serving as a sure foundation for the responsibility of man for his actions; which is thus not left to chance development, but is rendered an essential and necessary part of human nature." (*Crim. Lun.* pp. 29.)

If moral insanity exists, then the test of right and wrong is absolutely necessary, as it applies to the quality of the act. It would only remain then to diagnosticate the disease. One authority says, "without psychological knowledge, the most experienced superintendent of the insane is incompetent; for the question whether one function of the mind can become insane while the rest remain sane is to be decided, mainly on psychological grounds." (*Wharton and Stillè*, § 275.) The same authority says in another connection. "By almost all modern psychologists, by all the governmental forensico-legal experts of Germany, by whom such great breadth and ability of diagnosis is exhibited, and by whom such unparalleled patience and compass of induction are exercised, by at least a preponderating weight of opinion among English and American alienists, the theory of distinct moral monomania, the mind remaining sane, is not only repudiated but denounced." (§ 196.)

It is in regard to crimes that the question of responsibility is most serious. The experience I have had in the observation and treatment of the insane leads me to the conclusion that differences in cases are due to degree and not to kind of insanity, modified by habits of thought, education, social influence, &c. That cases of mania, melancholia and dementia are not to be divided into kinds, as moral and intellectual, but into degrees of intensity as to mental obscuracion, breadth of delusions and enfeeblement of mental action.

I do not, at this time, propose to discuss at length the question of the existence or non-existence of monomania, as claimed by certain writers. It is rather my purpose here to give a series of clinical cases, which have passed under my personal observation for a period of twenty-five years past, embracing a large number of cases of actual homicide, as well as unsuccessful attempts at homicide, and threats looking to such a crime.

One of the tendencies of the progress of physiology, in our day, unfortunately, has been to lower the estimate of our moral nature, by ascribing to it an exclusively physical basis. If this latter were true, as a postulate, then we should expect to find moral degradation, keeping pace uniformly with physical deterioration; since by no possibility could the moral nature, if a constant dependent upon the physical, stand at all when the latter was undermined. But what are the true facts? What does the field of clinical medicine daily reveal to us? Why simply this, that the majority of diseases, and among them the most wasting in their extent of blood and cell, as phthisis, cancer, marasmus, produce no corresponding deterioration of the moral nature. A man may indeed be depressed in dyspepsia and hopeful in consumption, but those states are only passing clouds or gleams of sunlight, upon his mental or moral horizon, which in no sense necessarily involve his moral affections. They do not impair or destroy his love of truth, his hatred of wrong, or essentially affect the manner in which he discharges his duties as a citizen to society. So that the argument from nature rather sustains the view that the moral nature is something intended to remain, as it was originally placed, above the immediate reach of physical causes; and, therefore, whenever it is reached by them it is through changes which are not directly nor exclu-

sively material, but by a surrender of the individual to excesses on the one hand and their consequences, or on the other to deteriorating popular errors in hygiene, in its broad sense. Thus, for example, in a circle of society where pallor and a certain valetudinarianism are considered marks of high birth and culture, and in which these marks are sustained by certain conditions of life, robustness and ordinary sensibility would be looked upon as a declension in tone of blood. This actual and cultivated physical deterioration is by no means necessarily marked by moral declension.

Responsibility is not measured by any physical standard, nor is crime. If crime be, as some assert, simply or possibly automatic, a something springing out of the physical nature, then all law, under social organization, is a conspiracy against our nature, and men would have no more right to punish each other for infractions of law than they would have to punish each other for being born with bodily defects. All social order rests on either voluntary self-restraint, or forcible. The moment a man loses his capacity of self-control he becomes dangerous to the well-being of society, and in consequence should be restrained, either as a criminal or an insane person. But in neither of those conditions are his acts automatic. Automatism can not be predicated of thought occupied with external things as its originator or ultimate purpose. We are acted upon by things outside of ourselves before we return an act towards them. Hence, some consciousness and reflection accompany the initiatory stages of any human action. The error of a purely physiological view of mental action consists in giving it an exclusively physical origin and basis, regardless of the fact that mind has acted with great vigor in many conditions of bodily disease, involving various organs, and

the nervous system, and even the brain. Thus men like Robert Hall and Heinrich Heine, the victims of spinal disease, unquestionably acting, by sympathy of contiguity at least, upon the brain, have produced immortal works in which nothing like impaired mental and moral power can be detected. Such examples, which experience could multiply indefinitely, should make us wary of accepting theories of mental action, purely gratuitous, as these illustrations show. On the other hand it is not safe to affirm absolute independence of mind on bodily influence, for all clinical experience teaches the contrary. The golden mean lies in acknowledging a limit of the power of each over the other, though we may never be able to fix the exact line where physiology ends and psychology begins. But it is apparent enough that the mind is always the superior in endurance, and in consequence is not readily dethroned by causes, however material. It is nevertheless true that when mind does give way the evidences are generally first seen in the moral affections. Could we eliminate from human experience such dominant subjects as domestic life, religion and social law, all coming within our moral nature, the regions of the passions and affections, the character of lunacy would itself be modified as well as our ideas of crime and responsibility. But we are constantly to take into consideration moral ideas either in the form of duty to God, to kindred, to society as well as to self. Unless this is done, the moral nature, born of physically produced, and unrestrained tendencies, is swept away. To this extent, therefore, crime may have a physical basis for its execution, though not necessarily for its existence in man. M. Despine in his attempt to unfold the etiology of crime has treated it mainly as a problem in physiology which view if logically carried out would undermine all re-

sponsibility and establish for absolute truth and justice a doctrine of expediency, and necessitate the most absolute despotism to save society from drifting into anarchy.

In reality it is not a problem of either physics or metaphysics, exclusively, but of both, and the factors which enter into it, are as manifold as those which go to make up character, as parentage, sex, temperament, education, habits of body and mind all of which must be considered. A diagnosis in criminal cases, requires searching into all the past, as well as the present circumstances of the individual's life. In this way alone can we differentiate between the sane, and the insane man. Thus we ascertain his original and normal standard, and are able to mark the departure from it, whether by disease or demoralization.

And since neither physics nor metaphysics alone, can decide the question, apart from the personal characteristics of the individual case, so we are reminded that it is by keeping constantly in view the original dual nature of man, that we can resolve with any approximation to correctness and justice, problems of criminal responsibility.

A striking characteristic of the criminal class, as a whole, is not an enfeebled physical condition, recognized at a glance, as in the insane, but on the contrary, a state of robustness of health, with power of endurance of the vicissitudes of season and exposure, interruption of sleep and irregular diet, and all without apparent affect. Many of this class, make good soldiers and sailors, and conquer circumstances under pressure. Surely then the physical sensations, which are assumed to prove the invariable basis of crime, must be tonifying, rather than debilitating agents, since they so closely simulate health, and but for the crime, would be called perfection of functions.

In order to reconcile these patent contradictions in the premises, it is then assumed that such persons are psychologically insane, although they present this high type of physical life, and present no higher symptoms than belong to the ordinary exercise of free will. Killing, certainly, is not to be taken as a proof of insanity or disease, and neither are stealing or lying any more than levity out of place, or any other oddity of behavior.

However, in the case of Mrs. McCarthy, tried in Utica, a few years ago, for shooting at a man and killing another person in a street car, which she had deliberately watched and entered, two doctors, one of whom had had an experience of some years with the insane, testified to the instantaneous character of insanity, and one of them that the purpose to kill, was the essence of the insanity, and the shooting, both the culmination and cure of the disease, as it relieved the morbid feeling.

The case of Sickles, that of General Cole, and that of McFarland, were of the same type.

I see no ground on which to rest an hypothesis of an impulsive insanity, or to justify an incorporation in our medical jurisprudence of such a form. I can not conceive of a homicidal act, impulsive, without motive, delusion, or passion, simply a so-called impulse to kill, and a careful analysis of clinical cases, under my own observation, as well as a large experience in the examination of criminals, sustains this view. Impulsive disease can not exist. The term impulse used to describe certain acts of the insane, executed suddenly, and without apparent premeditation, may be proper enough, as qualifying a mental state during an act, as impulsive homicide, but this does not justify the transposition into homicidal impulse. Such transposition would show, not that the acts were apparently unpre-

meditated and sudden, but that in the mind there was suddenly generated a murderous impulse, an irresistible power, which, without the intervention of reason, or any intellectual act or motive, suddenly impels to the physical act. Man is not the prey of blind impulse.

In presenting actual cases of insanity, in which crimes were committed, I desire to determine, as far as possible, what the influencing motives or conditions are, as by clinical cases only, can the problem be solved. I present them under a slight modification of the divisions, suggested by Dr. Bucknill, some years ago, in his most admirable monograph, on "Criminal Lunacy." His classification was as follows:

"I. Those wherein the crime has been occasioned by delusion, and no reasonable person can doubt or object to the irresponsibility of the offender.

II. Wherein the offender, though suffering from mental disease, has committed the crime under the influence of some motive, not of a delusive character.

III. Where with general symptoms of cerebral disease, neither delusion, nor motive for the crime, are discoverable."

The fifty-eight cases of homicide here presented, may be classified under the following divisions:

I. Those in which the crime was the direct offspring of delusion.

II. Those in which the crime was committed during a paroxysm of insanity.

III. Those in which the crime was committed by manifestly insane persons, from motives and conditions which might influence a sane mind, as anger, revenge, mistaken identity, drunkenness, &c.

IV. Cases of epilepsy, in which the crime was committed while the persons were in the epileptic circle, or changed mental condition, following the fit.

V. Cases of mania à potu.

VI. Cases of delirium tremens.

VII. Not insane.

MOTIVE OR DELUSION UNDER WHICH THE HOMICIDE WAS COMMITTED.

In thirty-nine cases the patients were laboring under definite delusions which apparently controlled their action. In eight cases the homicide was committed during a paroxysm of insanity. Of the three cases of the third division, one committed the homicide from personal hatred and revenge, one from mistaken identity and one while intoxicated. There were five cases of epilepsy; two of them committed the homicide in a maniacal paroxysm, and three in the condition of mental disturbance, following the fit. Of the latter number, two acted from delusions, and one denied all recollection of having committed the alleged crime. One case of *mania à potu*, committed the crime, during a paroxysm, and had no recollection of it. Of the two cases of delirium tremens, one feigned dementia after recovery, and the other, though said to have had the disease, asserted he was merely drunk at the time; manifested no evidence of the disease when committed to the Asylum. Four were not insane, of these one feigned acute mania, and one was an intemperate imbecile.

FORM OF INSANITY.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Dementia,	10	2	12
Melancholia,	4	8	12
Chronic Mania,	8	1	9
Epilepsy,	3	2	5
Acute Mania,	5		5
Sub-Acute Mania,	3	1	4
Paroxysmal Mania,	1	1	2
Paresis,	2		2
Delirium Tremens,	2		2
Mania à Potu,	1		1
Not Insane,	4		4
			58

The preponderance of cases of dementia among the men, and of melancholia among the women, is noticeable.

MODE OF COMMITTING HOMICIDE.

By Shooting,	12
By Beating with Stone, Chair, Plank, Club, &c.,	11
By Stabbing,	8
By Blows from Axe,	8
By Cutting Throat,	6
By Choking, Smothering, Strangling,	5
By Cutting with Knife, Razor, Hoe, Handsaw,	4
By Throwing Victim out of Window,	1
By Drowning,	1
By Poisoning,	1
By Roasting,	1
Total,	58

The whole number of persons killed was sixty-eight and several were more or less severely wounded.

SEX.—Of the fifty-eight persons who committed homicide, forty-three were men, and fifteen were women.

AGE.—Under twenty years two men and one woman.

Between twenty and thirty, seven men and two women.

Between thirty and forty, fourteen men and seven women.

TABULATION OF FACTS

Relating to Fifty-eight Cases of Homicide, committed by persons subsequently admitted to the N. Y. S. L. A., at Utica, N. Y., from 1843 to 1875.

NO.	SEX.	AGE.	ADMIT- TED.	HABITS.	HEREDITARY TENDENCY.	FORM OF INSANITY.	MODE OF HOMICIDE.	MOTIVE OR DELUSION.	INJURIES TO SELF & SUICIDAL ATTEMPTS.	PARTICULARS REGARD- ING CRIMES—TIME, &c.	REMARKS.	RESULT.
1	Man.	32	May, 1843.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Chronic Mania.	Killed boy by repeated stabs with pitch- fork and knife.	Personal hatred and revenge.	None.	In daytime, murder premed- itated, plans of concealment arranged, weapons washed.	Had Reputation of being a bad man.	Detention removed to Co. Asylum, after 19 years.
2	Woman.	44	Sept., 1843.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Paroxysmal Mania.	Killed two children by cutting throat.	In maniacal paroxysm.	Suicidal.	In daytime.	Attempted to kill husband.	Discharged Recovered.
3	Man.	40	May, 1843.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Dementia.	Killed neighbor's wife by stabbing and burning.	Delusion, that he was the ob- ject of plots and evil de- signs.	None.	In daytime.	Afterward a dangerous man. Reported in <i>Journal of In- sanity</i> , January, 1846.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
4	Man.	35	Aug., 1843.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Epilepsy.	Killed a man on canal boat with pike pole.	In paroxysm following fit.	None.	In daytime.	Made violent attacks after epileptic fits.	Died in Asylum.
5	Man.	49	Oct., 1843.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Acute Mania.	Killed a man in the street by stabbing.	Delusion, he was following him to rob him.	None.	In daytime.	A violent, suspicious and revengeful man.	Recovered.
6	Man.	30	Jan., 1850.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Chronic Mania.	Killed neighbor by stabbing.	Delusion, man was unkindly disposed toward him.	None.	In daytime.	Dangerous man, made and carried instruments to kill those whom he disliked.	After three years eloped, and died on way home.
7	Man.	30	Oct., 1850.	Temperate.	Yes.	Acute Mania.	Killed two men on deck of steamboat by stabbing.	Delusion, they were about to murder him.	None.	In daytime.	Afterward jumped overboard.	Recovered.
8	Man.	30	Nov., 1850.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Acute Mania.	Killed two men by stabbing, wounded several others.	In maniacal paroxysm.	None.	In daytime.	Was shot and captured.	Recovered.
9	Man.	51	June, 1851.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Melancholia.	Killed a neighbor by shooting.	Delusion, he was plotting against him.	None.	In daytime.	Gave himself up, evinced no sorrow or regret.	Recovered.
10	Woman.	53	Mar., 1852.	Temperate.	Insane parentage.	Sub-Acute Mania.	Killed neighbor's child, dashed head against wall.	In maniacal paroxysm.	Attempted Suicide.	In daytime.	An excellent christian woman.	Recovered.
11	Man.	33	April, 1852.	Temperate.	Father Insane.	Acute Mania.	Killed mistress by stabbing.	Delusion, she was plotting against him.	None.	In daytime.	A dangerous man.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
12	Man.	35	April, 1852.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	General Paralysis.	Knocked down and stamped to death a kinsman.	Delusion, that he was inimical to him.	None.	In daytime.	Deliberately.	Died within a year in Asylum.
13	Man.	29	Mar., 1852.	Intemperate.	Insane parentage.	Dementia fol- lowing Mel- ancholia.	Killed father by sin- gle blow from club.	Suddenly awakened, mistook him for person endeavoring to injure father.	None.	In night-time.	Had been insane some months.	Recovered.
14	Man.	42	June, 1853.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Dementia.	Killed a man plung- ing in neighboring river by shooting.	Delusion, obeying command of God.	Very Suicidal.	In daytime.	Loaded gun, shot deliberately.	Died in Asylum.
15	Man.	33	Aug., 1853.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Not Insane.	Killed brother-in-law with an ax.	Family Troubles.	None.	In evening.	Acquitted on second trial on ground of insanity.	Discharged by order of Court; not insane.
16	Man.	42	Mar., 1854.	Temperate.	Yes.	Melancholia.	Killed wife by cut- ting throat, also at- tacked daughter.	Delusion, under Divine command.	None.	Deliberately: immediately passed into profound stupor.	Refused food, emaciated and demented when admitted.	Had no recollection of homicide. Recovered.
17	Man.	56	May, 1854.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Dementia.	Cut off wife's head with ax.	Delusion, jealous of wife.	None.	In daytime, deliberately.	Gave himself up, and desired to be hung.	Had perfect recollection of homicide. Recovered.
18	Man.	40	May, 1854.	Intemperate.	Insane parentage.	General Paralysis.	Killed neighbor by shooting.	Delusion, neighbor was trying to get his supposed wealth from him.	None.	In daytime, deliberately.	Was pale and emaciated.	Died in a few months, in Asylum.
19	Woman.	35	Aug., 1854.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Dementia fol- lowing Mel- ancholia.	Killed child by dash- ing head against wall.	In a paroxysm.	None.	In daytime.	Had for two years been jeal- ous of husband, without cause.	Transferred to County Asylum.
20	Man.	45	Feb., 1855.	Intemperate.	Insane parentage.	Delirium tremens afterward feigned dem'a.	Killed one child and wounded others, with a razor.	Paroxysm of frenzy.	None.	In evening.	Was tried: jury disagreed; was sent to asylum, where he feigned dementia.	Eloped; not insane.
21	Man.	30	May, 1855.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Dementia.	Killed wife and three children with knife.	Delusions existing, but con- cealed.	None.	In daytime, said he had rea- sons, but would not tell them.	Was imprisoned a long time before sent to asylum.	Tried in Asylum.
22	Woman.	35	Oct., 1855.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Dementia fol- lowing child bitch.	Cut off husband's head with a hoe.	Delusion, husband was not legally married to her.	None.	In daytime; husband taking nap after dinner.	Of gentle disposition.	Discharged by Court.
23	Woman.	27	Mar., 1856.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Melancholia.	Killed four children with an ax.	Delusion, to send them to Heaven.	Cut her throat.	In daytime, depressed from intemperance of husband, poverty and disappointment.	Of great evenness and gentle- ness of temper.	Transferred to County Asylum.
24	Man.	34	April, 1857.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Dementia.	Killed stranger by shooting, and robbed him.	Delusion, influenced by spirits.	None.	In daytime, on the road, deliberately.	Reported in fall: <i>Journal of Insanity</i> , January, 1859.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
25	Man.	53	May, 1857.	Temperate.	No.	Not Insane.	Killed a man by shooting twice in the groin.	Ill feeling toward the man; revenge.	None.	In daytime, on the road delib- erately.	Said he had been induced to plead insanity by counsel.	Discharged after fourteen months, not insane.
26	Man.	32	April, 1858.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Not Insane.	Killed a man by shooting.	Man owed patient money.	None.	Was tried, condemned to be hung, feigned insanity.	Feigned Acute Mania.	Returned to Prison. Died soon after.
27	Man.	43	Feb., 1859.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Chronic Mania.	Killed his wife by shooting.	Delusion, mandate from the Lord.	None.	Made no effort to escape.	Attacked others, saying they were instrumental in killing his wife.	Discharged, by order of Court.
28	Man.	32	June, 1859.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Dementia.	Killed brother by choking.	In a quarrel, both drunk.	None.	In night-time.	Had been in an Asylum.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
29	Woman.	49	Sept., 1859.	Temperate.	No.	Melancholia.	Killed her son with a stone.	Delusion, she and her children were coming to want.	None.	In night-time.	Had been depressed for two years.	Recovered.
30	Man.	40	Sept., 1859.	Intemperate.	No.	Dementia.	Killed his wife with a chair.	In a paroxysm.	Had fracture of skull.	In daytime.	No recollection of the homi- cide.	Eloped and died.
31	Woman.	30	July, 1860.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Melancholia.	Killed child by choking.	Delusion, that it might go to heaven.	Cut her throat.	In daytime.	Had complained much of headache and depres- sion.	Committed suicide by sus- pension in Asylum.
32	Man.	13	Jan. 1861.	Temperate.	No.	Epilepsy.	Killed a woman with a hatchet.	In paroxysm following fit.	None.	In daytime, arrested in street, hands and clothes bloody.	Served in the army, after- wards married.	Improved and Eloped.
33	Man.	31	Dec., 1861.	Intemperate.	No.	Acute Mania.	Killed his mother by throwing her out of a window.	Delusion, he was the third per- son of the Trinity.	None.	Denied any recollection of homicide.	Had same delusion in subse- quent paroxysms.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
34	Man.	50	Oct., 1862.	Temperate.	Pat. aunt and sister insane.	Melancholia.	Killed mother, cut her throat.	Delusion, heard voice of God commanding him to make a sacrifice.	None.	In daytime.	Recollected and regretted homicide.	Recovered.
35	Woman.	40	April, 1864.	Temperate.	Mother and sister insane.	Melancholia.	Killed child struck with a stick, choked her, cut her throat.	Delusion, her milk would poison the child and she ought to kill it.	Attempted suicide by taking arsenic.	In daytime.	Expressed great sorrow for act.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
36	Man.	30	Sept., 1864.	Temperate.	Maternal aunt insane.	Sub-Acute Mania.	Killed wife by cho- king.	Delusion, she ruined his health by witchcraft.	None.	In daytime, on the road.	Was maniacal and violent to others.	Recovered.
37	Man.	33	Oct., 1864.	Unknown.	Unknown.	Melancholia.	Killed wife and child with an ax.	Delusion, they were coming to want.	Suicidal.	In night-time in bed.	Had served in army.	Recovered.
38	Woman.	38	Dec., 1864.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Chronic Mania.	Cut husband up with an ax, while he was intoxicated.	Delusion, that he was the Devil.	None.	Unknown.	Was sentenced and remained in prison a year.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
39	Man.	22	Dec., 1864.	Temperate.	Father and 4 pat. cousins insane, 2 sisters mutes.	Chronic Mania.	Killed his father with a butcher knife.	Delusion, that he was com- mended by Moses who was present.	Attempted suicide.	In night-time.	A deaf mute.	Transferred to County Asylum.
40	Man.	47	Nov., 1865.	Intemperate.	No.	Paroxysmal Mania.	Killed a man with a piece of plank.	In maniacal paroxysm.	None.	In daytime.	Mistook identity of persons; a dangerous man.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
41	Man.	35	Feb., 1867.	Temperate.	Paternal cousin insane.	Dementia.	Killed wife by beat- ing her.	Delusion, he was Jehovah.	None.	In night-time.	Very suicidal in Asylum.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
42	Woman.	23	Feb., 1867.	Temperate.	No.	Melancholia.	Drowned child in a bottle of water.	Delusion, had committed un- pardonable sin, and could not take care of it.	Attempted suicide by taking paregoric.	In night time.	Had thrown child into the snow before.	Recovered.
43	Woman.	18	June, 1867.	Temperate.	Father insane.	Melancholia.	Killed child by smothering.	Delusion, to put it out of misery.	None.	In daytime.	Called all children her own, justified the killing.	Recovered.
44	Man.	43	Aug., 1867.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Sub-Acute Mania.	Killed wife by stab- bing her with whip- cord.	Delusion, she had drugged him.	None.	In night-time.	Sent son to order a coffin for her.	Discharged Unimproved, in Charge of Friends.
45	Man.	20	Oct., 1867.	Intemperate.	Father Insane.	Not Insane.	Killed his mother by shooting.	Intoxicated.	Shot himself same time.	In daytime.	Imbecile: when a boy was shot in dorsal vertebrae.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
46	Woman.	31	April, 1870.	Temperate.	Unknown.	Melancholia.	Killed child, cut throat.	Delusion, to save it from suffering.	None.	In daytime.	Very Suicidal in asylum.	Eloped.
47	Man.	64	Jan., 1871.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Dementia.	Killed wife with an ax.	Delusion, saw face of God in the ax, heard command of God.	None.	In daytime.	Expressed no sorrow, and did not think he had done any wrong.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
48	Man.	36	April, 1871.	Intemperate.	Mother Insane.	Epilepsy.	Killed a stranger in a bar-room by shoot- ing.	Delusions of fear and sus- picion.	None.	In evening.	Denied any recollection of occurrence.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
49	Man.	42	Mar., 1871.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Mania a Potu.	Killed wife by beat- ing her.	In maniacal paroxysm.	None.	In night-time.	Had previous attacks of delirium tremens.	Recovered.
50	Woman.	39	Mar., 1871.	Temperate.	Paternal grand- uncle.	Melancholia.	Killed two men by shooting.	Delusion, she had been raped.	None.	In daytime.	Seldom speaks.	Still in Asylum.
51	Man.	27	Jan., 1873.	Unknown.	Pat. uncle & mat. grandmother and aunt, insane.	Chronic Mania.	Killed child by cut- ting throat and at- tempted to kill wife.	Delusion of supernatural power, had hallucina- tions of sight.	None.	In night-time.	Selfless and unkind in family.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
52	Man.	43	July, 1873.	Intemperate.	Pat. uncle insane.	Said to have had Delirium Tremens.	Killed man in a sa- loon by shooting.	To avoid exposure of his conduct.	None.	In evening.	Had been Deputy Sheriff, and was City Marshal.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
53	Woman.	49	Sept., 1873.	Temperate.	No.	Epilepsy.	Killed husband by poisoning.	Persistently denied crime.	None.	In daytime.	Asserted husband poisoned self because he had syphilis.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
54	Man.	49	Feb., 1873.	Unknown.	No.	Chronic Mania.	Killed a man with a shovel.	Delusion, he was God and man was anti-Christ.	None.	In night-time.	Went to a Justice and report- ed the crime.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
55	Man.	35	July, 1873.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Sub-Acute Mania.	Killed mother, shot her.	Delusions of fear and suspi- cion, ordered by God.	None.	In daytime.	Shot a man in arm.	Died in Asylum.
56	Man.	57	July, 1873.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Chronic Mania.	Killed wife, with head saw.	Delusion, that he was to be killed.	Suicidal.	In daytime.	Injured daughter severely.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
57	Man.	33	Sept., 1873.	Intemperate.	Unknown.	Chronic Mania.	Killed stranger, with ax.	Delusion, under direction of God.	None.	In day-time.	Suddenly, without premed- itation.	Transferred to Criminal Asylum.
58	Woman.	35	Jan., 1875.	Intemperate.	No.	Epilepsy.	Killed child by roast- ing on stove.	In condition following fit.	None.	In daytime.	No recollection of it. Reported in <i>Journal of Insan- ity</i> , April, 1875.	Still in Asylum.

1841

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Between forty and fifty, thirteen men and four women.

Between fifty and sixty, seven men and one woman.

Between sixty and seventy, one man.

The youngest was a boy of eighteen, and the oldest a man of sixty-four years.

The great majority, thirty-seven in number, were between thirty and fifty years of age following the usual rule, regarding the time of the occurrence of insanity.

HABITS.—Fourteen men and thirteen women were reported as being of temperate habits; twenty-five men and two women were intemperate; while in four men the habits were unascertained.

HEREDITY.—Fourteen men and four women were said to have had an hereditary tendency. This is nearly thirty-three per cent. of the whole number.

TIME.—In thirty-eight cases, the homicide was committed in the daytime; in ten cases in the night time; in four cases in the evening, and in six cases the time was unascertained. In ten cases there were evidences of preparation and deliberation in the commission of the act.

SUICIDAL.—Seven men and four women attempted suicide after the commission of the crime.

RESULTS.—Eighteen were transferred to the Criminal Asylum at Auburn; sixteen were discharged recovered; six died in the Asylum; four were removed to County Asylums, profoundly demented; three were discharged by order of a Court; five eloped; two were removed by friends; one committed suicide; one was returned to prison for sentence, and two remain in the Asylum.

We give the histories of the preceding cases with such detail of facts as we have been able to obtain.

CASE I.—Admitted May, 1843. Male, aged 32, laborer, no education, no religious belief, a man of bad habits; chronic mania following prolonged ill-health; killed the adopted son of his brother-in-law by repeated stabs with a pitch-fork and knife. The murder was premeditated, well-arranged plans of concealment were laid and carried out, the instruments were carefully washed, and the body buried under the barn. His motives were grounded in personal hatred and revenge. He had always borne the reputation of being a bad man. The act was committed in the daytime. Demented, and after nineteen years was removed to the County Asylum.

CASE II.—Admitted September, 1843. Female, mother of a family, aged 44, of common education, good habits, and even temper. Paroxysmal mania, commencing at climacteric period. During one of her paroxysms, while in a furiously maniacal state, she cut the throats of two of her children, and attempted the life of her husband. When homicidal was always suicidal. The act was committed in the daytime. Discharged, recovered.

CASE III.—Admitted May, 1845. Male, aged 40, a cabinet-maker, of intemperate habits. Under the delusion that he was the object of plots and evil designs, he killed a neighbor's wife by stabbing and burning. It was early in the morning, and she was in bed with her child. He set the only door of the house on fire, and on her attempting to escape, struck and stabbed her with a stick, in the end of which a piece of iron was inserted. She had three ribs broken and received a punctured wound of the thigh, was severely burned and died soon after. The patient barricaded himself in his shanty which was entered through the roof by the officers. Transferred to Asylum for Insane Criminals. Case reported, with evidence, in *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INSANITY*—January, 1846.

CASE IV.—Admitted August, 1846. Male, aged 25, a boatman, no education or religious belief, but of fair morals and an industrious man. The hereditary tendencies in the case are not known. In a paroxysm of violence and insanity, killed a man in daytime on a canal boat, with a pike pole. Was tried and sent to the State prison, where he was found to be insane. Had there frequent paroxysms of insanity, in which he made desperate assaults upon several persons, and was a very violent and dangerous man. His epileptic paroxysms succeeded each other at brief intervals, and marked his periods of violence. Died in the Asylum.

CASE V.—Admitted October, 1848. Male, aged 40, a wealthy land speculator, of intemperate habits; was a violent, revengeful, suspicious man. At the first outbreak of an attack of acute mania, stabbed a man in the street, in the daytime, under the delusion that he was following his footsteps to rob him. Recovered, and eloped from the Asylum.

CASE VI.—Admitted January, 1850. Male, aged 50, farmer, of violent and ungoverned temper, a drunkard; was laboring under chronic mania, caused by his prolonged intemperance. One morning openly stabbed a neighbor, under the delusion that he was unkindly disposed to him. Was tried, convicted, and sentenced to prison for life. Was there found to be insane, and sent to Asylum. Was a very dangerous man, constantly secreting and making instruments with which to kill those whom he disliked. After three years he escaped, and died on his way home.

CASE VII.—Admitted October, 1850. Male, aged 30, a laborer, of good habits, of hereditary taint. Had an attack of acute mania, induced by fatigue and anxiety; the first indication of which was a maniacal frenzy, during which, as a matter of resistance, under the delusion that he was about to be murdered, he stabbed two men on the deck of a steamboat, and then jumped overboard. Act was committed in the daytime. Discharged, recovered.

CASE VIII.—Admitted November, 1850. Male, Sandwich Islander, aged 30, a sailor, of good habits, educated. His purse was stolen by the steward of the vessel while in port; and under the impression that he was doing right, he stabbed the steward, when an attempt was made to arrest him. In maniacal frenzy he killed two men by stabbing, and wounded several others: was finally shot down and captured. Acute mania continued for some time. Was acquitted on the ground of insanity. Discharged, recovered.

CASE IX.—Admitted June, 1851. Male, aged 51, of intemperate habits; had an attack of melancholia, induced by his vicious indulgences. One morning, after breakfast, shot a neighbor, under the delusion that he was plotting against him. Gave himself up to the authorities, evincing no regret or sorrow. Discharged, recovered.

CASE X.—Admitted March, 1852. Female, aged 58, of insane parentage, a worthy member of the Baptist church. Had an attack of sub-acute mania, caused by domestic trouble. In a par-

oxysm of maniacal passion she killed a neighbor's child by dashing its head against the wall. She was also suicidal. Discharged, recovered.

CASE XI.—Admitted April, 1852. Male, aged 32, a gardener, of good habits, inherited insanity from his father. He had deserted his wife in Ireland, and was living with another woman. Had an attack of acute mania and was sent to Blackwell's Island; after a time became quiet, and his mistress was allowed to take him out on pass. The same night, he killed her by stabbing, under the delusion she was plotting against him. Continued a very dangerous man, and after some years was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XII.—Admitted April, 1852. Male, aged 35, a laborer, was an intemperate man, and of intemperate ancestry. Was for some time depressed and suspicious. One morning he went forth deliberately and knocked down and stamped upon a kinsman until he was dead, under the delusion that he was inimical to him. The following day he passed into an acutely maniacal state, demented rapidly, and died of general paralysis before the end of the year.

CASE XIII.—Admitted March, 1853. Male, aged 29, a boatman, of intemperate habits, and of insane parentage; had been in a melancholy state for some months. His father went to his room one evening to ascertain whether his son was at home. Having no light, he repeated his name several times. Patient, who was dozing upon his bed, sprang up, thinking his father was shouting for help, seized a club, and encountering him in the dark, killed him by a single blow. Was demented when admitted to Asylum. Discharged, recovered.

CASE XIV.—Admitted June, 1853. Male, aged 42, a peddler, of intemperate habits; was demented from long continued dissipation. He loaded a gun one morning, and under the delusion that he was obeying a command of God, shot a man who was plowing in a neighboring field. Was very suicidal. Died in the Asylum.

CASE XV.—Admitted August, 1853. Male, aged 33, a cabinet-maker, of good habits, a Swedenborgian; killed his brother-in-law with an axe. The act was committed in the evening and in connection with some family difference. On second trial, after prolonged imprisonment, was acquitted on the ground of insanity. Was subsequently discharged by the Court as not insane.

CASE XVI.—Admitted March, 1854. Male, aged 42, farmer sober and industrious, of a kind and amiable disposition. Hereditary taint in family. Had twice suffered from insanity. Suddenly, and without assigned cause, became gloomy and depressed; talked much about his soul, and the earthly and future welfare of his family. Read his Bible a great deal, finally secluded himself, and on one occasion prayed for thirty hours in succession, without rising from his knees. Thought he could look directly into heaven, and converse with the Saviour. Suddenly became composed, took his razor very deliberately, and cut his wife's throat to the vertebrae, producing instant death. He then made a similar attack upon his daughter, who, however, escaped from him with the remainder of the family. Patient at once sank into profound stupor, refused food, rapidly emaciated, and was brought to the Asylum demented. Subsequently retained only a dreamy recollection of the homicide. Discharged, recovered.

CASE XVII.—Admitted May, 1854. Male, aged 56, a quiet, industrious man, the father of ten children. Was slightly intemperate, rather reserved in disposition, but kind to his family. Began to complain of intense headache, became jealous of his aged wife, and cross to his children. One morning walked out to the woodpile, procured an axe, returned to the house, knocked down his wife, dragged her to the door, and deliberately cut off her head. The children fled and aroused the neighbors. Patient gave himself up and desired to be hung. On opening of the Court he was so evidently insane that he was sent to the Asylum without trial. When admitted, was laboring under dementia. Seldom spoke of the act, of which, however, he had a perfect recollection. Discharged, recovered.

CASE XVIII.—Admitted May, 1854. Male, aged 40, shiftless and uneducated, abjectly poor, lived with and was supported by his sisters. Was addicted to the free use of intoxicating drinks; was of insane parentage. Became silent, pale and emaciated; soon imagined that he was possessed of great wealth, which his neighbors were trying to get away from him, and under this delusion procured a gun and shot one of them. Was brought to the Asylum, and in a few months died of general paralysis.

CASE XIX.—Admitted August, 1854. Female, aged 36, of an even temper and gentle disposition. While nursing her child, and in rather delicate health, contracted an ungrounded jealousy of her husband. This continued for two years. At times she was also

suspicious of and violent toward others. One morning locked herself in the house and barricaded the windows and doors. Attempts were made to gain admission, when, in a paroxysm of maniacal passion, she seized her children by the feet and dashed their heads against the wall, fracturing the skulls of two, one of whom died. She was brought to the institution in a state of dementia, and was subsequently removed to the County Asylum. Discharged, unimproved.

CASE XX.—Admitted February, 1855. Male, aged 45, a clergyman, of academic education; of insane parentage, of intemperate habits, and violent, ungovernable disposition. Had an attack of *mania á potu*, during which he made a murderous assault upon his family with a razor. He killed one child, and wounded others. After a trial, in which the jury could not agree, and pending a second, was sent to the Asylum on order of Judge. Feigned dementia. He eloped in 1855. Not insane.

CASE XXI.—Admitted May, 1855. A laborer, of temperate habits, but of violent, passionate disposition. Became very angry with his wife on account of her refusing to sign a deed of conveyance. Subsequently killed her and three children with a knife. Committed the act in the daytime. Did not deny it, but said he had his reasons for it. Was demented when admitted. Was long imprisoned before being sent to the Asylum. Had a large scrofulous tumor upon his neck: said that he had always had it. Died.

CASE XXII.—Admitted October, 1855. Female, aged 35, German, religiously educated, and of gentle disposition; had dementia following child birth. Had a delusion that her husband was not really married to her—that he was an adulterer. On his returning from his work at noon, one day, he lay down to rest while his dinner was preparing. Falling into a light sleep, the wife seized the opportunity to cut off his head with a hoe. Became profoundly demented, and was discharged by order of Court.

CASE XXIII.—Admitted March, 1856. Female, aged 27, of insane parentage, religiously educated, member of Episcopal church, of great evenness and gentleness of disposition; was subject to periods of depression, owing to the intemperance of her husband, poverty, disappointment, and home-sickness. Had attempted suicide. One Sabbath morning, and while she was laboring under depression, her husband left to go fishing. In his absence she seized an axe, killed four of her children, and cut her own throat. Demented, and was transferred to County Asylum.

CASE XXIV.—Admitted April, 1857. Male, aged 22, a shoemaker, unmarried, habit of self abuse. Procured a pistol, went to a road which farmers, returning from market, were accustomed to travel; was invited by a man, whom he supposed to be a farmer with money, to ride with him; rode some distance, then got behind him, shot and robbed him, and threw the body out of the wagon; drove into Jersey City, and offered the team for sale, claimed he had purchased the pistol to defend himself against enemies; heard voices threatening him; was so manifestly insane that on preliminary examination at trial was sent to Asylum, whence he was transferred to Asylum for Insane Criminals. Case reported, with evidence, in *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INSANITY*, January 1858.

CASE XXV.—Admitted May, 1857. Man, aged 53, married, five children, farmer, good habits, native New York. Patient had been a hard-working man, and had by his labor acquired possession of a large and valuable farm. He was on bad terms with neighbor whom he shot, and had not spoken to him for twelve years. This neighbor had done many things to irritate and annoy him, and patient suspected that he had injured his stock, as breaking the legs and ribs of his pigs, stabbing his horse, &c., an instance of which occurred the day before; annoyances had angered him; he had been moody and suspicious, a condition which was afterward on trial, attributed to insanity; this was the state of feeling between the parties when the homicide was committed. On this occasion the murdered man drove by his house several times, and purposely attracted his attention; the man took a double barrelled gun, advanced to within six feet, and without uttering a word, discharged the contents of one barrel into his groin; a struggle then ensued, in which the second barrel was discharged into the other groin. The victim lingered for eighteen hours. The man was sent to jail, after some two months was tried, acquitted on the ground of insanity, and sent to the Asylum. He remained fourteen months, but gave no indications of insanity, disclaimed the idea of being insane, and said he was induced to make this plea by his counsel, with a view of escaping the consequences of his crime. Not insane.

CASE XXVI.—Admitted April, 1858. Man, aged 52, married, butcher, intemperate, Catholic, native of Ireland, reads and writes, heredity unknown. Two years before admission, he shot a man who owed him money. The act was committed on the Suspension Bridge, American side, but the wounded man died in Canada.

After about one year, the prisoner was tried and though the plea of insanity was interposed as a defense, he was convicted of murder in the first degree. The question of jurisdiction was then raised, and immediately after its settlement, or about two months before his admission to the Asylum, he showed, as was supposed, symptoms of acute mania. An inquisition *de lunatico* was held, the prisoner was declared insane, and sent by the County Judge to the Asylum. On admission he was noisy, talkative, called physician the Pope, uttered oaths, which he called his prayers. He, however, presented no physical signs of mental disorder. His simulation was at once detected, and in two days he dropped all attempts at feigning. He was kept in the Asylum for seven months, and upon repeated careful examinations and the absence of any signs of insanity during the whole period, he was returned to the county authorities as a case of simulated insanity, and was within three days sentenced to be hung. Immediately thereafter he became again noisy and restless, and in about a month died in jail, from erysipelas. Not insane.

CASE XXVII.—Admitted February, 1859. Man, aged 48, widower, cooper, common education, Catholic, hereditary and previous habits unknown. Patient had for two years had periods of violence, and during one of these shot his wife with a gun, under the delusion that he “had a mandate from the Lord.” He made no effort to escape, was arrested and indicted for murder in the first degree. He was so manifestly insane, that he was sent to the Asylum upon the order of the Court. During the whole time he was under observation, he maintained he was commanded to commit the act. In the periods of excitement to which he was subject, he attacked others under the delusion, that they were instrumental in his killing his wife. At intervals he employed himself, and expressed great regret for violence committed when under excitement. He gradually became quiet and demented, and after seven years was discharged by the Court, as a harmless lunatic.

CASE XXVIII.—Admitted June, 1859. Man, aged 32, single, longshoreman, intemperate, Catholic, no education, native of Ireland, heredity unknown. He was arraigned on the charge of manslaughter, for having killed his brother. They were both intemperate men, but lived together on good terms. The testimony shows that upon the night of the homicide, the brother was intoxicated and boisterous, and that the patient took him to the room to keep him quiet, and prevent his being arrested by the

police. The witness who with his wife lived in a room near by was aroused by a scuffle between the brothers. On knocking at the door, the brother asserted patient was choking him, but he denied it, and said he was trying to keep his brother in. On being again disturbed, witness said he found patient talking but the brother made no reply. On going a third time to the door, witness was told by patient not to come again, as they were not making any noise. Soon after twelve o'clock, witness was awakened by patient who desired some matches. The request was refused, but in a short time, he came again, and said his brother was dying, witness said you choked your brother, he replied "he wanted to choke me but I was the better man." Witness went in, there was no light, and found the brother lying across the bed, dead. The tick was torn and the straw was scattered about the room. The wife of the witness confirmed the foregoing statements. To the policeman who was summoned, and who accused him of the murder, he answered, "I did not mean to do it, he struck me first." Dr. Moses H. Ranney, Superintendent of the City Lunatic Asylum on Blackwell's Island, testified, that he had been an inmate of the Institution for some sixteen months, and left there two years before. That while there he "fancied certain persons attempted to poison him," and that at time of present examination patient told him "that within a few days an attempt had been made by a fellow prisoner on his life, who tried to choke him, he resisted, and a fight was the result." A verdict of not guilty, on the ground of insanity was rendered, and he was sent to the Asylum. For a period he was quiet, walked up and down the ward, talking to himself, but was irritable if in any way disturbed. At length he became interested in the stock, especially the pigs, which he claimed as his own, and helped in their care. He often demanded wages for his labor, and presented accounts for thousands of dollars. He was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XXIX.—Admitted September, 1859. Woman, aged 49, married, two children, common education, member Presbyterian church, good habits, native of Scotland, not hereditary. For two years she had been melancholic, lost all interest in her household affairs, and at intervals was much depressed. At those periods asserted that she and her children were coming to want, spoke of killing her children because they were not respected as they had been, and it was better for them to die than to live. About two months

before admission, she got up in the night, and having put a stone in a stocking, killed her son with it. Armed with a similar weapon, she walked twelve miles to the house in which her daughter was stopping, intending to kill her, but was arrested before she could accomplish the act. She was sent to the Asylum by order of the Court of Oyer and Terminer. After about fourteen months she recovered and was discharged by the Court.

CASE XXX.—Admitted September, 1859. Man, aged 40, widower, eight children, iron worker, no education, uses liquor and tobacco, native of England, not hereditary. About a year before the homicide, he had his skull fractured by the fall of some bricks. He was treated in the New York Hospital, and discharged from there six months before his admission to the Asylum. Previous to the injury he had borne a good character and was a mild and inoffensive man. After leaving the Hospital he suffered much from headache, of a severe character, situated near point of fracture. He lost memory and became excessively irritable and violent if crossed or opposed in any way, and was sleepless. Three months before his admission, he killed his wife during a paroxysm of excitement, by striking her repeatedly with a chair. He was arrested and lodged in jail, but denied any knowledge or recollection of the crime. He did not manifest any realization of the occurrence until sometime after, and when it had been frequently told him. He was sent from jail to the Asylum, on the order of the County Judge. For a long period he suffered from headache and was at times irritable, but manifested no tendency to commit violence. He was emotional and sensitive to the remarks of other patients; although able to do light work, any unusual exertion or exposure, brought on a return of the headache. He became more equable in his feelings, and feeble-minded, remained in the Asylum four years, when he eloped. He has since died.

CASE XXXI.—Admitted July, 1860. Woman, aged 30, married, had one child, wife of a small farmer, not a church member, reads and writes, good habits, native of Saxony, heredity unknown. Since the age of puberty, patient complained much of headache and depression of spirits, and at irregular intervals had been quite melancholic, refused to see any one, was inclined to wander away, and threatened to commit suicide. The paroxysms occurred at menstrual periods, which were never regular or normal. Four years before the homicide she gave birth to her only child, after which she was in more feeble health, and the periods of depression

recurred more frequently. She had been suffering from one of these attacks some ten days, when early one morning she went into the fields, and told her husband, the little boy was lost, but insisted he should not leave his work to look for him. After about a half an hour, the father becoming anxious at the absence of both mother and child, went to the house in search of them. It was deserted, but he found the child on the bed, and a note in the handwriting of the mother, across the forehead, which read, "the child died an easy death." She could not be found, but sometime after made her appearance. She denied having killed it, but stated that while engaged in praying with the child it suddenly died. The following night she with others watched with the body, and appeared to them quite rational. The next morning at about six o'clock, she went out but nothing was thought of it until her husband's razor case was found upon the table, empty. She was discovered in the barn with her throat cut; neither artery was injured, but the trachea was partly divided. The examination at the coroner's inquest showed that the child died of asphyxia, as the lungs were deeply congested, and in places ruptured. Some ten days after the commission of the homicide she was brought to the Asylum upon the order of the County Judge. She had eaten little for a week and was emaciated, seemed to have a partial realization of her condition, said she strangled her child "that it might go to heaven." After admission she was quiet, taciturn, seclusive, took food reluctantly and sparingly and slept little, on the sixteenth day she succeeded in hanging herself.

CASE XXXII.—Admitted January, 1861. Man, single, aged 18, reads and writes, smokes, temperate, native New York, not hereditary. Was subject to attacks of epilepsy, from the age of twelve years. The fits varied in frequency from one a month to several daily, and their duration from five to fifteen minutes. After the occurrence of the disease, he made little progress in his studies. There was also a marked change in his character, he lost self-control, had periods of excitement, and was at times ugly, was emotional and governed by his passions. He had been sent on two occasions to a hospital, for treatment, without any benefit. His father was a carpenter, and though he was not capable of learning the trade, he acquired some manual skill, and occasionally did work for a widow who kept a variety store near his residence. He was fixing some shelving for her, when about midday she was found murdered in her store; her body was much mangled by having been cut with a hatchet. Search was made and the patient

was arrested as he was walking the street, his hands and clothes stained with blood. His epileptic and irresponsible condition was proved, and he was sent to the Asylum by order of the Court. He remained some twenty months and during this time improved materially. His seizures were infrequent and he gained in mental strength. At this time he eloped from the Asylum through the connivance of his friends and enlisted in the army. He returned from the service, and subsequently married.

CASE XXXII.—Admitted December, 1861. Man, aged 31, laborer, common education, Catholic, intemperate, not hereditary. Was a bright, active boy, and at the age of nine came to America with his mother. He afterward lived with, and supported her by his earnings. She indulged in the use of stimulants, and he had an occasional spree. His first attack of insanity occurred in 1854, immediately after, an unusual indulgence in drinking, while celebrating the fourth of July. He was then suspicious of people, and had the delusion that there was a conspiracy against him, but soon recovered his ordinary health. Just prior to the attack in which the homicide was committed, he had been working and lifting quite hard, was engaged to be married and was interested in an amateur theatrical company. As he expressed it, "I got money, Shakespeare, negro minstrels, and matrimony, all mixed up," and afterwards became acutely maniacal. He was again suspicious, and had the delusion of conspiracy against him, and that he was the third person of the Trinity. This was his condition on Saturday, the day before the homicide. On Sunday he threw his mother from a fifth story window of the room they occupied, and killed her. Of the circumstances immediately attending the occurrence we have no knowledge, and he persistently denied any recollection of them. He was arrested and continued violent and maniacal. In the prison he was very talkative, obscene and profane, and struck the physician who had care of him. After some three weeks he was examined, declared insane and sent to the Asylum by order of the Court. For a few months he was abusive in speech, irritable and indolent, then became quiet and industrious. In September, 1862, he had another severe maniacal attack, was suspicious, refused food under delusion of being poisoned, and had the same delusion that he was the third person of the Trinity, and was dangerous and violent. He continued in this condition some two months. In 1863 during the months of July and August, he was irritable and depressed. In 1864 and 1865,

he had a recurrence of maniacal attacks, characterized as before. In a letter written after his recovery from the attack in '64, he says, "that I conceived I was the third person of the Trinity is a positive fact, and the same conception came into my head, the first time I was sick here and the last time; now it is singular that it is only while the attack lasts that I believe this. I do feel ashamed when I come to myself and think it over." From this time he was quiet and industrious, though somewhat feeble-minded until late in 1869, when he again became maniacal. The attack was marked by same delusions as were before given. He was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XXXIII.—Admitted October, 1862. Man, aged 50, widower, three children, farmer, common education, Baptist, temperate, native of Connecticut, paternal aunt and sister insane. At the age of twenty-five, was thought to have phthisis pulmonalis. He, however, subsequently married, and improved in health, though he has since been somewhat of an invalid. About a year before the homicide, he became depressed and despondent, was restless, timid, suspicious of his neighbors, worried much about the state of the nation, and lost interest in his business. He continued gloomy and melancholic until about three days before, when he became noisy, restless, sleepless and suffered much mental agony. Being left alone with his mother, he killed her by cutting her throat with a razor, he then fell on the floor, frothed at the mouth, had muscular twitchings of the face, and remained insensible for an hour. After his return to a state of consciousness he remembered the occurrence, and asserted that he did it under the belief, that to prevent the destruction of the world, a sacrifice was demanded of him, and he heard the voice of God commanding him to commit the act. He was so manifestly insane, that he was not tried, but was admitted to the Asylum a week afterward, on a bond as a private patient. He was then sleeping little, had a variable appetite, and was much emaciated,; continued sleepless and depressed, had headache and was confused in speech. After five months in the Asylum, he writes to his friends, "it seems as if I had been handled by some unaccountable and irresistible power, you can imagine my feelings, I can not express them. The last days I spent at home, seem like a dream, nearly extinct at first, but made plainer by thinking of it." He also expressed delusions in regard to his neighbors and friends, which he retained for some ten months. He gradually improved in health, gave up his delusions, and after some eighteen months was discharged recovered.

CASE XXXIV.—Admitted April, 1864. Woman, aged 40, married, three children, good habits, common education, not a church member, native of New York, mother and sister have been insane. Had been married some twelve years, but during the whole time had not enjoyed good health, was subject to “nervous spells.” Her third child was born nine months before the infanticide, and she was after that time in more feeble health. Two weeks before, she attempted suicide by taking a teaspoonful of arsenic in molasses. This proved an overdose, and she vomited it. In killing the child, she first beat its head with a stick, fracturing the skull, choked it, and afterwards cut its throat with a razor. After the deed she carried it around in her arms in a frantic manner. She did it she said, because she thought it was poisoned by nursing her after she had taken the arsenic. An examination was held, and she was acquitted on the ground of insanity, and sent to the Asylum on the order of the Court. She was thin in flesh, sleepless and depressed, and had no realization of her condition. She asserted that she could not die, but wished some one could get her out of the way. She also gave the same reason, already narrated for killing her child. During her residence in the Asylum, a period of seven years, she was depressed and gloomy, had delusions that her food did not nourish her, but passed directly to her bones, and on this account at times refused it altogether. She was for a period strongly suicidal, and again noisy and maniacal. During the latter part of the time, she was composed, quiet and interested herself in sewing, but had occasional paroxysms. She was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XXXV.—Admitted September, 1864. Man, aged 30, widower, farmer, common education, Methodist, temperate, native of New York, maternal aunt insane. About eighteen months before the commission of the homicide, he became insane, asserted he had a revelation from Heaven, and that by laying hands upon the sick they would recover, visited from house to house, giving warning to people to flee from the wrath to come. He became incoherent in speech, threw his food away, and on one occasion threw his wife’s shoes in the fire and choked her. He was restless and sleepless. After some two months he became natural, and was thought to have recovered his ordinary mental condition, though physically debilitated. A month before the homicide, he became exhausted by his labor and was said to have suffered from an attack of fever, (probably sub-acute mania,) of some two weeks duration:

during convalescence he was irritable, restless and sleepless, was suspicious of people, that they were plotting against him, broke dishes at the table, and induced fear in his family. At this time he went out to drive with his wife; they had been gone but a short time when she was heard to cry murder, by neighbors who were following them: was found by them with his knee upon her breast, and his fingers upon her throat; she was lying on the ground dead. He was highly excited, incoherent and violent, toward those who approached him, and this condition lasted two hours. He then became calm, and on being informed of what he had done, was greatly affected. A few days thereafter he was brought to the Asylum on bond of friends; he was quiet, coherent in conversation, but manifested mental enfeeblement. He recollected the affair, said he was unwell at the time, and entertained the delusion that his wife and others, by witchcraft, had affected his health, that on the morning of the murder, he had determined to ride out with her, and talk the matter over pleasantly, but as soon as he commenced conversation he became frantic and could not control himself. He slowly gained in mental and physical condition, and after six months was removed by friends contrary to advice, as he was considered a dangerous man. He was not arraigned or tried.

CASE XXXVI.—Admitted October, 1864. Man, aged 33, married, one child, farmer, Lutheran, native of Germany. He was drafted in 1863, and soon after became insane; he was sent to the Government Hospital for Insane at Washington, whence he was discharged after a few months, and returned home. Was unwell for some time, and finding himself unable to work for his family, became depressed and melancholic, said they would all come to want, and that it was best to kill his family and himself to avoid the impending danger. He killed his wife and child while they were in bed, with an axe, but was prevented from killing himself by the intervention of the neighbors. He was arrested and tried on an indictment for murder. The jury under charge of the Court declared the prisoner not guilty, on the ground of insanity. He was sent by order of the Court to the Asylum. He improved favorably, and after nine months was discharged recovered.

CASE XXXVII.—Admitted December, 1864. Woman, aged 38, widow, two children, native of Ireland, Catholic, no education, intemperate, heredity unknown. She was an intemperate woman, and with her husband kept a low drinking house. She killed him by cutting him up with an axe, while he was in a state of beastly

intoxication. She was tried and sentenced to be hung, but the sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life, and she was sent to Sing Sing where she remained for a year. For a few months she was quiet and worked industriously, but for the last six months in prison was noisy, maniacal, and made dangerous attacks upon others, had hallucinations of sight and hearing, declared she saw her husband and talked to him, also that she had a child in bed with her, and called people to see it. At times she pounded the wall, saying she was striking her husband. To prevent injury to others she was secluded, and finally brought to the Asylum upon the order of the Prison Inspectors. She was much of the time noisy, boisterous, profane, obscene, violent, insisted her husband was here, and was hungry, and demanded he should be fed. At times she was dangerous to those who had charge of her, from her violence. She retained her hallucinations of sight and hearing, especially regarding her husband; she had no realization of having killed him, and if the matter was referred to, constantly asserted she "cut the Devil up." She continued in the institution for six and a half years, when she was sent to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XXXVIII.—Admitted December, 1864. Man, aged 22, single, farm laborer, Baptist, deaf mute, temperate, native New York. Father insane and four paternal cousins. Parents are cousins, two sisters are mutes. He was a stout healthy boy, and at the age of ten years was sent to the school for deaf mutes, where he made good progress and showed considerable aptitude for learning. After returning home he worked upon a farm. In July, 1862, after a period of revival meetings he joined a church, and then began to complain of God's injustice to him for making him a mute; considered it a visitation of Providence for the sins of his ancestors. At times he thought himself very wicked, and once attempted suicide. He was afterward in June, 1864, taken to the County Asylum, and after two months was discharged as well. He was quiet, worked faithfully, but entertained exalted religious delusions, and was incoherent. In November, 1864, he claimed to be the brother of Moses, often looked out the window as if expecting some one, and informed his friends at whose house he was staying, he was looking for Moses who had promised to come and burn Rochester, New York and Washington, for their wickedness. When laughed at he became angry, claimed that God would punish those acting thus, and requested a friend to write to President Lincoln for permission to kill three men whom he knew had

cohabited with sheep. The same night he was restless, went to the front door, and seemed to be welcoming persons whom he indicated were Moses, Christ and God. The next day his parents were informed of his condition, and the day following came for him. He received them pleasantly and remained with them during the evening. About midnight he went to the door and again welcomed God to the house. At this time he communicated to a friend who was watching him, that God had pardoned his father and mother for the night, as he did not wish to shed blood in his friend's house. The next morning he desired to go to church, and when his father opposed it, threatened to cut his throat, and made an effort to seize him. Owing to his violent condition, application was made for his admission to the County Asylum, but was refused, and he was taken home. At nine o'clock he retired, but finding the bolt removed from his door, went down and ordered his mother to make a bed in another room, but as she refused he did it himself. At half past ten he went to his parent's bed-room, armed with a butcher knife, which he had obtained from the pantry. His father hearing him coming down stairs had arisen and was lighting a candle. He stabbed his father in the thorax cutting down through into his abdomen, and then endeavored to reach his mother, but was prevented by his father, although so severely wounded that he died the next morning. He was arrested and afterwards sent to the Asylum on the order of the County Judge. After remaining quiet and comfortable some two months, became violent, destructive and incoherent. He subsequently grew feeble-minded and silly in his actions, and after a residence here of some years was removed to the County Asylum as a harmless lunatic, by order of a Court.

CASE LX.—Admitted November 22, 1865. Man, aged 47, married, four children, mason, common education, intemperate, native New York, not hereditary. Was first admitted to the Asylum in 1863; had for years led an intemperate and vicious life, and for a few weeks had been acutely maniacal, violent and dangerous; was lodged in jail, and thence sent to the Asylum. He passed through an ordinary attack of acute mania, and after six months was discharged, recovered. He continued well some fifteen months, though keeping up his intemperate habits; when he became again insane, accused people of having robbed him, was boisterous, kicked down a door of a hotel where he demanded admission late at night, was arrested, lodged in jail,

and thence transferred to the County House. Being noisy, violent, and maniacal, he was confined in a cell. On the second day he broke through the side of the cell which was of two inch plank, by jumping against it. With a piece of the planking thus obtained he furiously attacked a fellow patient whom he met, and beat his brains out. He mistook the identity of persons and insisted that he had killed the keeper who, he asserted, had killed him four or five times. He was tried on indictment for murder, declared insane, and sent to the Asylum. The maniacal excitement and violence continued; had delusions that he was under the direct guidance of the Almighty, and that he had killed the keeper of the Asylum. After about six months he became quiet, talked coherently and was in a comfortable condition, but retained his delusions; was a treacherous, dangerous man, and had several maniacal paroxysms. After some four years he was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XLI.—Admitted February, 1867. Man, aged 35, widower, five children, farmer, common education, member Methodist Church, temperate, paternal cousin insane. He served for three years in the army, and returned in the fall of 1865. From his friends we obtained the following history. That after his return from the army he did not seem natural, at times acted stupid and foolish, and did many strange things. Among them he undressed his children and pretended to baptize them, put them naked under the bed, and said they were in Hell, that on one occasion he pursued his sister with a scythe, and that one rainy night he compelled her to carry a lantern all night in the woods, while he said he was chasing the Devil. During several months he conducted thus, but again seemed rational. Three weeks before the homicide he was at times raving, and on several occasions went to his mother's who lived near him and prayed for hours as loud as he could talk. His mother and sister became afraid of him and locked the house against him. During his absence in the army, his wife proved unfaithful to him, and confessed her infidelity. He laid her on the floor, walked over her and whipped her with a strap to drive the Devil out of her. He also killed a cat, six geese and his horse; the latter he took into the house and covered with the bedding, while himself and wife lay on the bed cords. He then urinated upon the floor, and having washed the blood from his feet, drank of it, compelled his wife to do so, and then pronounced them clean and pure. He took excrements from his wife's bowels and ate of them. While naked he chased his wife

around the house also naked, saying he was driving the Devil out of her, and in this condition they danced before the children. A complaint was entered against him for beating his wife, but at the trial she refused to testify against him, saying she had deserved it all, and it was just. The complaint was dismissed. At this time, in the court room he sprinkled the floor and chairs with water, and called them pure. Two days before the homicide he went to a neighboring village with his wife; she drove the horse, but he went on foot, and part of the time on the top of stone fences, on all fours like an animal. In the village he stopped people and announced himself as Jesus Christ. On the way home he attracted the attention of the sheriff, who met him walking arm in arm with his wife; he did not talk or answer any questions. The second night after this he murdered his wife, beating her with savage cruelty in sight of his children, who were deterred by his threats from rendering assistance. In the morning, the wife was found dead in bed, with her leg broken and put up in a police, by a brother-in-law. He was arrested and taken to jail, where he was in a dull and stupid state most of the time. He ate well, was at times noisy at night. After a few weeks he was sent to the Asylum by order of the Court. He was much demented, could rarely be induced to talk, laughed foolishly without cause, and made many peculiar motions and gesticulations. His extremities were cold and congested, skin greasy, and facial lines greatly obliterated. Occasionally he was excited and talkative, and then asserted that he stood in the place of God; that his name after leaving the earth would be Jah, Jehovah; that he was God in full till he married, and then parted with a portion of his power. He gradually became more demented, and was sometimes filthy in his habits. He remained in the Asylum for nearly three years, when he was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XLII.—Admitted February, 1867. Woman, age 22, married, one child, housekeeper, Methodist, good habits, native of New York, not hereditary. She enjoyed good health in early life. At the age of sixteen ran away from home and married, but lived unpleasantly with her husband. Four months before admission she was delivered of her only child. She had complained much of headache, which returned after child birth. She then became gloomy and depressed, and three weeks before the infanticide threw her child from the window into the snow, and then took paragon to kill herself. The child was rescued by its grandparents. Although closely watched she secretly got out of bed-

drowned her child in a boiler of water and returned without awakening her husband. She was so manifestly insane that no inquest was held, and she was sent to the Asylum on the order of the Superintendent of the Poor. She was thin and pale, slept irregularly, was strongly suicidal, had the delusion that she had committed the unpardonable sin, and also asserted that she had killed her child from a sense of duty, as it could not be like other children, and she could never take care of it. She continued depressed and melancholic, complained of severe pain in the head, and made many unsuccessful attempts to strangle and hang herself. After some months she improved in health and strength, and realized her condition. She remained in the Asylum fourteen months and was then discharged, recovered.

CASE XLIII.—Admitted June, 1867. Woman, aged 18, married, one child, good habits, common education, native of New York, hereditary, father insane. She has usually enjoyed good health; was married about two years ago against the wishes of her parents; moved west with her husband, but lived unhappily with him. She soon became unmanageable, wandered away from home, was strange in her conduct and incoherent in speech. Her condition was recognized and she was returned to her father's house. During the winter she was more disturbed and violent, and in the early spring smothered her child, then two months old; asserted that she did it in desperation at the treatment she had received, and to put it out of misery, and justified the act. At the same time she maintained that her child was not dead, and called every child she saw her own. She was committed to the County Asylum where she was noisy, maniacal, and destructive, and slept poorly. After some two weeks she became quiet, and seemed rational. She was, however, sent to the State Asylum by order of the county judge. On admission she asserted that her friends had tried to poison her, and feared she was to be taken away and hung. She gradually improved in both mental and physical condition, and after six months was discharged recovered.

CASE XLIV.—Admitted August 1867. Man, aged 43, widower, four children, farmer, common education, not a church member, good habits, native of Germany, heredity unknown. His insanity was first noticed in December, prior to the homicide. He then neglected his business, went often to the village, and spent whole days there. Was restless and sleepless; had hallucinations of hearing; said he heard threats of burning his barn at night, and

therefore slept near the door; he got up frequently and looked out, keeping watch. He also went to neighbors houses at night, and on one occasion started at midnight for the village with cattle to sell, that he might get by his neighbors; asserted that the merchants with whom he dealt were suspicious that his money was counterfeit. He accused his wife of infidelity, and of giving him poison in his food, and keeping him under the influence of it. This he said made his head feel stupid and caused dizziness and loss of memory. He also asserted that he had been poisoned by some pork sent him by a neighbor. In March he applied to a lawyer to get a divorce from his wife on the ground of her infidelity, but he could bring no evidence of members of his family to sustain the charge. On the morning of the 17th of April his wife was found dead with a whip lash tied about her neck, and he is said to have sent to the village and ordered a coffin for her. He was arrested, declared insane and put under charge of a committee; was retained in jail till August, when he was brought to the Asylum on a bond as a private patient. On admission he maintained the same delusions as are given above, but made further statements, asserted that on the night of April 10th his wife gave him a drink of poison which made him sleep heavily; that in the night he awoke and found his wife's hand upon his throat, and she was trying to choke him. In the morning his stomach felt as if he had eaten nothing for a long time. She gave him some Hostetter's bitters, to drink, which she had poisoned, that this produced a violent headache, made him sick and took away his mind. On the night of the homicide, although he claimed he was drugged, he awoke and saw his wife in the kitchen standing by the stove; that he went out there, found the whip lash on the floor, and does not know any other particulars, but supposes he must have choked her. That he then went to bed, was restless during the night, but got up at dawn and told the children that mother was dead; that he put his boy on a horse and sent him to the village to bring some one up; that he went to the justice's, reported the death of his wife, remained there during the afternoon and then went home. He also states that he was taken to jail that evening, and that after he had been there some three weeks, the remembrance of the occurrences returned to him. In speaking of the murder of his wife, he says: God will not punish him, that he did not do wrong, that it was a matter of right, necessity, and self-defence, and that he was not responsible as he was under the influence of the drug given him by his wife. He was quiet and orderly, but in about a month became

maniacal and violent for a short time. He then developed the delusions that food and air were poisoned, that medicine was given him to make him insane, and that his blood had stopped circulating and been drawn off. He remained quiet, peculiar in his manner but retained his delusions, during his stay in the Asylum, nearly two years. He was then removed by his committee.

CASE XLV.—Admitted October, 1867. Man, aged 20, single, no education, no occupation, not a church member, intemperate, father died insane. He was a bright, intelligent boy, at the age of eight years, was injured by the accidental discharge of a pistol in the hands of his brother. The charge consisting of a ball and two slugs entered the arm just below the shoulder, passed across the back, and is asserted to have lodged in the spinal column. Complete paralysis of the right side took place and continued for six months. The power of articulation was lost for the same time, and when about a year afterward he returned to school, he was found to have lost all knowledge previously acquired from books. At the age of seven he learned to chew tobacco, and at nine, after he had recovered from the immediate effect of the wound, he began to use liquor. Naturally of a mild and kind disposition, when under the influence of liquor, which he drank to excess whenever he could obtain it, he was irritable and violent. His mind was feeble and did not develop normally after receipt of the injury. He attended school part of the time, and studied with his brother and sister at home, but did not learn to read. When he was 14 years of age the family removed to the country, and from this time when not in school he drove cows and did other chores. He continued the excessive use of liquor and tobacco, and had periods when he was melancholic, and threatened his own life and the lives of others. On the 25th of June, 1867, he obtained and drank two glasses of liquor. He then went home and having taken a pistol from his brother's bed, went down stairs and without saying a word or having had any altercation with her, shot his mother in the head. A second shot missed the body, and a third took effect in her side. The patient then shot himself, fell, and became unconscious. After a half hour had elapsed his brother entered and found both lying on the floor. His mother was dead, and patient was seriously wounded. The ball entered the right eye, and passed out of the right ear. The sight was destroyed, but the hearing was not affected. He was arrested, confined in jail, and in October tried. He was found insane and sent to the Asylum upon the order of the Court. On admission he was quiet and well behaved, and gave his

own history. Regarding the homicide he said, that as he entered the house in the morning after drinking, the idea of suicide entered his mind, and because of his affection for her, he wanted his mother to die with him. His general health was fair, his right side was paralyzed, and the extremities were atrophied. The right hand was much deformed, the palm being turned outward and the fingers permanently fixed. The right foot dragged in walking and there were choreic movements of the muscles of the face, which was disfigured by the injury, and also of the leg. It will be observed that the paralysis was on the same side as the injury. He remained in the Asylum for nearly four years, and was a quiet, harmless, and tractable imbecile, and was then transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XLVI.—Admitted April, 1870. Woman, age 31, married, two children, good habits, common education, not a church member, native of New York, heredity unknown. At birth of eldest child, now ten years of age, she had a difficult labor, lost much blood and has not been in as good health since. About two years ago gave birth to a second child and was still further reduced. She soon became excessively irritable, and was at times violent towards her husband. Two months before her admission, as appears from the evidence, she had some trouble with her husband. After he left the house for his work, she told her little boy she must kill the baby to save it from suffering as she had, and then sent him on an errand to a neighbors to borrow something. On his return she told him she had killed the baby, and directed him to call the neighbors to see it. They found it on the floor with its throat cut and a piece of rag lying over the wound. She was removed to jail, where she ate sparingly, slept irregularly and at times moaned and groaned, and again sat silent and moody, denied having killed her child, and said her husband would bring it back. She was sent to the Asylum upon the order of the Court. After admission she was gloomy and depressed, thin in flesh, and most of the time silent and seclusive. She complained of pain in head and back, refused food, which was administered by stomach tube, and was very suicidal, trying to get knives or some instrument with which she could accomplish her purpose. In a few months she gained in flesh and strength, and was inclined to employ herself. She still, however, complained of pain, and of an uncomfortable sensation in the head. A year after admission she had some realization of her condition, and made the following statement: That when she killed the child, she wanted to die, and felt they were all

going to hell, and she feared the child would come into the same state she was in, and it was better for it and for her that it should die. That she had very vague and confused notions of things, that every thing seemed in a whirl of sin and wickedness, that she acted conscientiously, and thought she was doing right, that she used to get up in the night and think she would kill the child, and that some evil spirit urged her to do it. She also said that for a long time she prayed earnestly to be saved from the sin of murder, and that her little boy kept her from killing herself. She gained both physically and mentally, and after about fourteen months eloped from the Asylum by picking a lock. A short time after this she broke her limb by being thrown from a carriage. She was so much injured that her friends assumed the charge of her, and she is still with them.

CASE XLVII.—Admitted January, 1871. Man, aged 64, widower, eight children, farmer, intemperate, not a church member, no education, native of New York, heredity unknown. He had been an ordinarily healthy man, worked hard at his occupation of a farmer, was intemperate in his habits, and often abused his wife. Two years before the homicide he had a severe attack of rheumatism, followed by valvular disease of the heart, large deposits about the joints, atheromatous arteries, and œdema of the legs. He complained of dizziness and disturbance of vision, became suspicious of his wife and son, whom he said were plotting to get his property, and left home for longer or shorter periods. At times took his clothes to a neighbors to be washed; tied them up in a handkerchief and threw them out of the window. Insisted on selling his farm to his son, and taking a mortgage for the paltry sum of \$100. Before the homicide he went away from home and staid all summer with another son, and never mentioned his wife or business while there. After his return went on to a piece of wild land adjoining his farm, built a shanty on it and lived there alone for a time, but returned to his home because he had "fainting fits" there, which he said were brought on by his wife and son. Made foolish bargains, and when one of these was broken up, became enraged, and afterward refused to do any thing. One morning after breakfast, and his sons had gone out to work, nothing unpleasant having occurred, he came out of the house holding up an axe, and told his youngest son to tell his oldest brother, who was ploughing, that he had killed mother. The eldest son came in and found his mother on the floor with her head cut open, and his father smoking a pipe. He stated to his son that he had killed

her, that he had seen a face in the axe, that he must go and get some women to fix up the body before the girls came home, as they would feel badly. He then got up and refilled his pipe, was obliged to step over the body to reach the tobacco, and said he would watch the body till his son got the women. He made a similar statement on examination in the jail, in October, 1871, and asserted that he and his wife were talking together after the boys went out, and she thought he ought to do something. He said it seemed to him that he got very large, and every thing about him was very large; that he himself was as large as a barn, that the axe stood near and he could see a large face shining in it, which he thought was the face of God. The next thing she screamed, and he saw what he had done, and then struck her again with the axe to prevent her from suffering. He described these fainting fits as first a dizziness, and then he did not know anything till he came out of them, that he had often had them, and believed his wife and son brought them on by some influence they had over him. He expressed no feeling, did not think he had done any thing wrong, and had been very happy since. Said he had been converted, and God made him feel it was all right. He was in a condition of dementia, hands and feet were edematous, joints much enlarged by deposits, and fingers purplish. Skin was clay colored, cold and greasy, and facial lines were partially obliterated. After the examination he was sent to the Asylum without a trial on the order of the County Judge. While in the Asylum was silent unless addressed, serene in countenance, never spoke of family or friends. After some six months he was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XLVIII.—Admitted April, 1871. Man, aged 36, single, picture frame dealer, Catholic, common education, intemperate, native of Ireland, mother insane. He had been in America some eighteen years, and employed in various capacities, as a laborer on railroads, a bar-tender, a peddler, a waiter in hotels, in the commissary department of the army, and for past two years as a picture frame dealer. He had been an habitual drinker, and at times became intoxicated. On Sunday in which the homicide was committed, he went to visit an acquaintance, took tea with him, and afterwards a drink of whisky. They then visited a saloon, where he met the man whom he killed. They drank together, and soon he and his friend left the saloon and started home, on the way they quarreled, and he returned to the saloon; a number of persons stood at the bar drinking, and for some ten minutes he listened but did not speak; a remark was made by the murdered man that

the name of McClellan was one he respected, and was one of Scotch origin, with an oath and the assertion that he was as good as any man in the room, he drew a pistol and shot him. He was arrested, lodged in jail, and in about two months brought to trial. The line of defense adopted, was that patient had epilepsy with attacks of insanity. It was in evidence that for four or five years he had accused people of spitting at him, and asserted that the government and individuals were watching and following him about, that some fifteen months before he had attracted a crowd of people for striking a man who spit in his presence, that a few months before he had been knocked down and robbed, and after this had purchased a pistol, with which he said he was going to settle some parties, that he had been turned away from his boarding place, because he had used threatening language to his landlady and the other boarders, that he was worse when in liquor, and that when he had periods of disturbance, the blood would rush to his face, and he would clench his fists. He was examined by several experts, who testified to his epilepsy and insanity, among them was Dr. M. G. Echeverria. The prosecution abandoned the case during the trial, the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty because of insanity, and he was sent to the Asylum by order of the Court. On admission he asserted that for four or five years he had imagined people spat at him, and were watching him, that he used to hear people around the house talking about him, though he could not hear what they said, that he had been knocked down and robbed some two months before the homicide, and was laid up a few days by the injury. That after this he had dizziness and pain in the head, that his vision was affected, and he had the sensation of balls of fire before his eyes, says he was afraid because of the rough character of people about his store, and bought the pistol to protect himself, and fired it off in his store to let them know he was armed. Regarding the homicide he recollected going to the saloon with his friend and drinking a bottle of champagne, did not drink any more because he had a headache and felt dejected, and feared liquor would make him worse. After leaving the saloon, and having the quarrel with his friend, he remembered nothing until the next morning, when he awoke in the station house. While in the Asylum he was morose and reticent, but at times threatening in language. He manifested enmity to the judge who committed him to the Asylum, and said he would be willing to be hung if he could kill two of the physicians who had charge of him. After some fourteen months he was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE XLIX.—Admitted March, 1871. Man, aged 42, widower, no children, physician, academic education, intemperate, native of New York, heredity unknown. He was usually in good health, of a passionate disposition, and for some years had been at times very intemperate. He had had three attacks of delirium tremens before the present one. A week before the homicide he began to drink immoderately, and on the evening before, a physician was called to attend him. A lady friend remained in the room with patient and wife until twelve o'clock, but as he was then sleeping quietly, she went to bed in room below. Toward morning she heard a noise in the room occupied by patient, tried the door and found it locked. She obtained a key, and on entering found the wife on the floor dead. She had been beaten to death by her husband; when an officer arrived, the patient was washing himself, and was much excited. When asked why he killed her, he replied that she was going to China, and he thought she had better go to Heaven first. On being taken to jail he was noisy, excited, and violent, and saw animals in his cell. The grand jury refused to indict him because of his insanity, and he was sent to the Asylum, by order of the County Judge. For a short time he was tremulous in action and incoherent in speech, but gradually improved, and after seven months was discharged by order of the Court. He subsequently removed to the west, and afterward committed suicide.

CASE L.—Admitted March, 1874. Woman, age 39, widow, one child, housekeeper, common education, Baptist, good habits, native of New York, paternal grand uncle insane. She was never in robust health; was married to a physician at the age of 21. At birth of child some four years afterward she had a milk leg, which has since given her more or less trouble. Her husband died about twelve years before the homicide. She was gloomy and depressed, and lost sleep and flesh at that time. She remained on the farm where her husband died, some four years, and because of her loneliness went to live with her brother in a village near by. During the whole period she constantly complained of ill health, of pain in her back, head, chest, and of uterine troubles. Her brother noticed a marked change in her for two years. She became absent minded and forgetful in conversation, and during the past year lost interest in her affairs, and said she was not going to live long. From about July, 1870, she was more feeble minded and forgetful and gradually became gloomy and depressed, uterine difficulties became more aggravated. Soon after she consulted

a physician and asserted to him that she was pregnant; that in June she had an attack of dysentery, for which she took some opium and camphor, and then went into the garden, sat down and soon fell asleep; that while sleeping a man came along and had intercourse with her. This story she repeated to the physician in her visits and correspondence. In November she remained a week under care of her physician. He made an examination but could detect no signs of pregnancy. She was menstruating regularly. On the 30th of November she visited him again and asserted she could feel the movements of the child in her womb. In the persistent denial of the physician that she was pregnant, she would for a time acquiesce, and say, "Doctor, I guess you are right, I am not pregnant, but in a few moments would return to the subject and re-assert her pregnancy. She continued her visits, and as late as January 10, 1870, when he made another examination, strongly asserted the same delusion. She was then thin, anæmic, complained of a pain in her head, talked of little beside her condition and was much depressed. During the fall of 1870, this changed mental state was especially noticed, and was the subject of conversation between her brothers. In October she was thrown from a wagon, complained of being much jarred and injured in her back. One leg was much bruised and swelled. She manifested unusual indecision and many peculiarities, and during the few weeks preceding the homicide was very restless, walked much in the house and on the street; kept a light burning all night in her room. A few days before, when one of her brothers went away on business, she acted very strangely, did not bid him good by, but told him he would never come back alive, and when he handed her an insurance policy and told her it should be her's and her son's if he was killed, she spoke complainingly that every thing was heaped on her and her son. The day before she visited a neighbor, was very restless, talked about her brothers and some trouble which existed between them regarding pecuniary matters, rocked to and fro, repeating, "I shall die, I can't live; I can't live; it all rests on my shoulders." This she did most of the time of the visit. She complained much of headache, and when she went out, passed her hand to her head, remarking: "I shall soon be where this aching head will be at rest." The neighbor testified that she looked wretchedly, her eyes were sunken and she was thin and pale. She had for some time been losing flesh, and had many boils upon her person. In the afternoon of the same day a traveling insurance agent stopped at the house and talked to her of getting her life in-

sured. In the evening she drove with the agent to the doctor's. It was a cold night, and she had on a thin shawl, no furs or rubbers. She took a policy for three thousand dollars for six months, and paid a premium of eighty dollars, and returned home at 8 P. M. She then was probably up all night, as some notes were found which showed she had been writing, and was under great mental distress. One of these directed to the agent at Bath, was evidently addressed to her son. Early in the morning of January 19, 1871, she went across the street, slipped a note under the door of the person whom she accused of seducing her, requesting him to come over as she wished to settle matters with him. He went over, and immediately thereafter, the report of two pistol shots was heard. Persons going in at once found the man dead, shot through each side of the head. She ran immediately by the shortest way, to the house of a brother, half a mile distant, and following him into a bed room, shot him. He died the same day. She was arrested and kept in the house while an inquest was held, but manifested no concern regarding the homicide, though moving about, talking, and expressing a desire to see her son. While going with the sheriff to the jail she talked incessantly and incoherently. I was called to examine her and found her in the following condition: She was at times silent, at others talkative, picked her dresses, took down her hair, was dressed by compulsion, refused food; threw things at the person bringing it, laughed and talked to herself in a muttering way, had an attendant constantly with her. One night she got out of bed; attendant said she awoke, missed her, found her sitting on the floor nude. Once attempted to throw herself headlong from the window, and gave no reason for any of her conduct. She ate voraciously, and with her fingers, steadily lost flesh, was sallow, skin cold and greasy, had a number of carbunculous boils on her head and body, which she would not allow to be dressed, but kept picking with her fingers. There was convulsive action of the eyelids without movement of the eyes. The glands of the eye were dry, and the conjunctivæ pearly white. The emotions could not be aroused by any reference to subjects of interest to her. Her features were most of the time fixed and immovable. Her fingers were in almost constant motion, and she rocked to and fro in her chair. When she gave answers to questions they were not responsive. Every attempt to awaken any sense of responsibility, or of right or wrong, by reference to the crimes she had committed, failed. In speaking of the men whom she had killed, she smiled and said, "They were not hurt," "Their

heads will grow on again," and then the idea thus awakened would seem to drift away and she would become silent. Again she replied, "She had nipped their ears and they would be around." At times her face would light up, and in answer to a question she would say, "I will tell you," and then stop. I finally ascertained that in committing the homicides she labored under the delusion that the neighbor had effected a rape upon her person, and that her brother was reporting her disgrace. After a judicial investigation in which the preceding facts were brought out, substantially as given above, she was sent to the Asylum upon an order of the Court. She was much demented, restless, walking up and down the ward, was usually silent, careless in dress, muttered to self, to questions persistently put replied in monosyllables, tied a black string around wrist, and wore a white patch on forehead, slept poorly, and ate sparingly. After a time appetite improved and she gained in flesh and strength. In October following she was walking out with other patients, when she suddenly mounted a ladder, placed against a verandah which was being painted, and reaching to the third story, a distance of about thirty-five feet. When she had gained the roof, as she saw some one approaching, she jumped to the ground. The fall occasioned a fracture of the right thigh, at the middle third, and a severe contusion of the neighboring tissues, as also of the face and neck. She complained of severe pain in the chest and back, though there was no fracture of the ribs or apparent injury. She became talkative, but was incoherent, repeated many times, "turn the organ round;" talked of being pregnant and said "let it be born." During the treatment for fracture she asserted she was pregnant, that the child had grown to her body, that she felt it move, that she sat down on the ground and felt bad. She made a good recovery from the injury, with a slight degree of shortening. Since then she has continued in much the same state as before described, at times somewhat disturbed, but usually quiet and indifferent to surroundings, and talking little and incoherently. Her general health has somewhat improved since admission. She is still in the Asylum, is silent and manifests no interest in any thing.

CASE LL.—Admitted January, 1872. Man, aged 27, married, two children living, picture frame maker, common education, Methodist, native of Wisconsin, maternal aunt and grandmother and paternal uncle insane. He served during the war in the cavalry, and married upon his return. Has had three children, the

oldest about five years of age. Was reputed to be a shiftless fellow, and to have abused his wife, though she never made any public complaint against him. They lived in a small village, the wife kept a millinery store, and he rendered her some assistance. Upon the examination it was in evidence, that he had shown signs of mental disturbance for a year or two. Some six months before the homicide he started from home to walk to Philadelphia, after going some miles became foot sore and weary, and returned home. A week before the occurrence the wife had called her friends to see him because of his strange conduct. He was lying on the bed, and there expressed delusions of suspicion and fear, said he had enemies, and to his friends seemed "out of his head." On Saturday an uncle called to see him, and patient told him that the evening before he had been at work to get the devil out of his boy, and that he was getting into him again, and went to rubbing the boy, and wished the uncle to see if the boy's eyes stuck out, and if there was a clammy sweat on him, said he had had a vision and it was all made plain to him. On Monday evening, December 18, 1871, the family retired about 10 p. m., he did not undress, and about one o'clock, got up and said he would build the fire. His wife says in a letter to him, while in the Asylum, "the next thing I knew you were standing over me with the razor in your hand trying to cut my throat, I wrenched the razor from you, how I did it I never knew, for you worked pretty hard, then you started for the axe, I tried, oh so hard, to get that away from you, but finally I was compelled to give up and let you kill me, then the blows came thick and fast on my head, and I fell to the floor, feeling nothing, but hearing our boy begging you not to hurt ma so. How easy I could have died, no pain, nothing but a consciousness of failing strength, and then all was dark." The child's throat was found cut, and its head nearly severed from its body. The testimony shows that patient went to a neighbor's house, a little after one o'clock in his stocking feet, with shirt and pants on, and without a hat. Having aroused the neighbors he inquired, "where are the boys, where are the rest of them?" On being answered "in bed," he replied "all right," then jumped the fence and ran away. "He was then wild and excited and seemed crazy." He went to another neighbor's and having asked him to take him to the city in the morning, went to bed. After breakfast they went out and neighbor then heard of the homicide. He was arrested, and an inquest was held, at which he was present, some one remarked to him: "This is a sad thing for your family," he replied, "It is God's

doings, the Bible says : "vengeance is mine, I will repay saith the Lord," that's all." He then relapsed into silence, replying to questions in monosyllables. He was indicted, and in about two weeks declared insane by an inquisition. At this time he was thought by the physicians to have been insane for from one to two years, he was incoherent, at times moody and reticent, and seemed to have no realization of having killed his child. He expressed the delusion that he had had a vision, that he had died, and his spirit had left his body, and when it returned his body was cold. He was in good flesh, and in fair general health. He was sent to the Asylum by order of the court. On admission, he was reticent, and presented the following physical signs, extremities cold and congested, facial lines partially obliterated, lips everted and a blue line along edges, he ate and slept well and was quiet. He soon became more talkative, would answer a few questions correctly, and was then incoherent, talked much of belonging to the army, asserted that the government would soon send a force and release him. At times denied the killing of his child, and again declared after that, two darkies did it, said "he had visions that he was full of gas, and was brought into trouble, because the minister preached the colors red, white and blue," says "God is the brain, God is woman, and the beasts are Jesus Christ, that they are to be knocked down and man is not." He made frequent attempts to escape, as he denied his insanity, and also that he ought to be in the Asylum. After some ten months he was transferred to the Criminal Asylum.

CASE LII.—Admitted July, 1872. Man, aged 43, married, one child, ship carpenter, common education, Catholic, native New York, intemperate, heredity unknown. He was robust, and apparently a healthy man, served in the army, and while there asserts he had a severe attack of acute rheumatism, was accustomed to use liquor and at times drank to excess. In April he shot a man in a bar room, was arrested and placed on trial. The defense of insanity was raised, the evidence was to the effect, that some five or six years before on one occasion, he acted strangely, came to the house of witness in the night, and asked to stay, seemed confused and suspicious, said enemies were following him, but could not name them or give any reason for suspicions, and again that within a week of same occurrence, while walking in the street, he talked strangely, said to friend, "our lives are in danger," and that he saw a man with a stone and seemed fearful. A physician also testified that some eleven years before, he had treated him for

mental aberration from drink, and had seen him two or three times since laboring under dementia. His family friends said he had acted strangely for some years. He was acquitted on the ground of insanity and sent to the Asylum. When admitted gave his own history, that he had been drinking to excess, and was drunk for some days, denied all recollection of going into the bar room, of having a pistol, of the shooting, and in fact of all events from four days before until the day after the shooting, when he was told in jail what had taken place; that he was then getting sober. This statement was made in the presence of the officers who accompanied him to the Asylum, and was the account he had given before. After their departure, he stated he remembered all about it, that it was a put up job for him to play insane, as well as to shoot the man. That he shot him because the man had seen him come out of the house of a woman of doubtful character, and had black mailed him several times, that he was determined to put an end to it, and shot him. That he had taken some liquor but was not drunk, that the man was a bad fellow and people were well pleased, that every one knew he was not insane, and said he had done the proper thing in shooting the man. Of the testimony regarding his insanity he says, that, although the doctor swore he had been insane five years and had treated him for it, "if the doctor did treat me for insanity, I never knew it," and that his friends never said anything about his acting strangely until after the murder. In the Asylum, the patient gave no evidence of insanity, was in good flesh, stout and robust. After he had been some six weeks in the the Asylum, a writ of *habeas corpus* was issued in answer to which he was taken before the Court; after hearing the case he was remanded to the Asylum by Justice Leonard, who in his order said: "The office of the writ of *habeas corpus*, is for the purpose of inquiry into the cause of the detention of any person, and if it appears to be illegal, of granting a discharge. Ordinarily the regularity of the process of commitment terminates all further inquiry, and the prisoner is to be remanded into custody. The court can not on *habeas corpus* inquire into the justice of the sentence or judgment, that has been pronounced by another tribunal, which can be renewed only in some other manner by a higher Court, but not upon *habeas corpus*. It is entirely clear that the judgment and process in the case of Burns, are regular and sufficient. The general *habeas corpus* act, provides that a prisoner confined on a judgment or sentence of a court of competent jurisdiction, is not entitled to that writ. The prisoner must show

preliminarily that he is not so confined when he applies for the writ." A month after he escaped by picking a lock, but was retaken in a few days. He was then transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE LIII.—Admitted September, 1872. Woman, aged 49, widow, three children, housekeeper, common education, not a church member, smokes, native of Vermont, not hereditary. She was in good health in early life, but some twenty years ago injured her back, and at the time was confined to the bed, and has since when over-worked or fatigued, suffered much pain. Some four years ago she passed the climacteric. During this time she lost in flesh and strength, became restless and disturbed, and ate and slept poorly. She also suffered from a sensation, as if her head or certain parts of it had been cut away and were removed from the body. She also seemed to see them in front of her, but when she applied her attention to it was able to correct the impression. She had an attack lasting some four months, in which she was apparently maniacal, preached, prayed, and sang, tipped over the furniture, was untidy in dress, and careless in habits, restless and inclined to wander away. She then improved, but has had attacks of same kind at irregular intervals, and of variable length. In August last her husband died from poisoning, and she with a neighbor, with whom she is said to have been improperly intimate, were indicted for the crime. He was sick at the time, and died soon after. She was lodged in jail, and afterward declared insane, but was at the time too feeble to be conveyed to the Asylum. She complained of same sensations in the head as have been given, and also had much pain in the back, was thin in flesh, ate little, and at times did not recognize her own children. On admission she was still very feeble, could not get up from chair or walk without assistance, skin sallow, eyes prominent, pupils dilated, and conjunctivæ pearly, when she talked, turned head toward right shoulder, spoke slowly, and with much hesitation. The sensation of bursting, and of a removal of a portion of the brain, with pain and dizziness continued. Her head was in almost constant motion, and there was great twitching of facial muscles, and also pain in back with tenderness opposite sixth dorsal vertebra; she was feeble minded, emotional and depressed. She denied poisoning her husband, and having any improper relations with her neighbor, though she said her conduct had been injudicious; that the neighbor put poison on the tansy, of which her husband made his bit-
ters, and wanted her to leave her husband and live with him.

She gradually gained in flesh and strength, but after a few weeks had an attack of facial erysipelas, when she thought she was going to die, at this time she stated that her husband poisoned himself with fox glove, because "he had the bad disorder." She, however, recovered from this attack, and was in a greatly improved mental and physical condition. The pain and abnormal sensation in the head continued to recur, with increased redness of face, a sensation of bursting, and attacks of neuralgia at frequent intervals. About a year after her admission she had a severe epileptic fit. This was subsequently followed by others. From careful inquiry we ascertained that she had been subject to epileptic seizures for years. She became quite feeble, walked with difficulty, was dizzy, and staggered like a drunken person. The debility became more marked, and she became entirely helpless, was in bed, incoherent in speech, and speaking with difficulty from paralysis of the tongue. She gradually gained in strength, and after some twenty months was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE LIV.—Admitted February, 1873. Man, aged 40, single, laborer, reads and writes, Catholic, native of Ireland, not hereditary. He was in the army and served fourteen months, received a wound in left leg and was honorably discharged. Had worked faithfully at same place for past two years. Some two months ago he murdered an old man with whom he was keeping house, by striking him on the head with a shovel. He then went to a justice and told him he had killed the old man. The justice did not believe him and sent him home. The patient washed the body and laid it out, and the next day went again and told him he was sure the old man was dead. He was arrested, and on examination found insane and sent to the Asylum by the County Judge. On admission he was quiet, acknowledged the killing, but asserted that "he was the true and living God, and the man he killed was anti-Christ, that it was his duty to multiply and increase, but that anti-Christ prevented him by masturbating him, that they slept together in the same bed, and that when he awoke in the night the seed was coming from him, that this enraged him and he told the old man he would get the axe and kill him. He came to the shovel first, and anti-Christ did not forbid it. That as anti-Christ came from the hell of the damned and gave three knocks, he gave him three knocks, those weights down on him by command of God." He was incoherent in speech, but persistent in the assertion of his delusions, claimed to be the true God, John the Baptist, and Jesus Christ, that if he should be retained in penitentiaries

and prisons and he hung, he should put his curse upon the world, and it would come to an end, he continued quiet though at times threatened others, had a pale anæmic look, characteristic of his chronic insane state. After about a year was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE LV.—Man, aged twenty-five, intemperate in his habits. Father and mother had for years kept a low drinking saloon and house of ill-fame, and both had served sentences in State Prison as receivers of stolen goods. After their release, the husband obtained a divorce from his wife and lived with another woman, to whom he claimed to be married. With her he resumed his former occupation. The place was well-known to the police as a resort of criminals and abandoned characters. The patient had received a common education, and been employed as clerk in various offices, and on the canal. From his own statement he had led a dissolute life, and had contracted venereal disease, which his condition, on admission, verified. His health having failed, he came home, boarded with his father, and engaged in the insurance business, but without success. He continued his evil associations, and gave himself up largely to drinking and dissipation. During this time he often threatened the life of his father and stepmother, secluded himself in his room, and shortly before admission had symptoms of fever, was described as delirious, out of bed and around the house with only his underclothes on, drank freely of liquor, became abusive, threatening and violent. The police were called in at times to quell the disturbances. One day a boarder in the house hearing a noise in the room occupied by patient, went up stairs and found him seated at the head, with a pistol in his hand. The patient discharged it at him, and the bullet passed through the right forearm. The injured man retired and soon after heard three pistol shots fired in quick succession. The police, summoned by the noise, went into the patient's room and found the stepmother lying dead on the floor. A ball had penetrated the chest, passed through the right lung, removed a portion of the wall of the aorta, and lodged in the left lung. The patient was seated upon the side of the bed reloading the pistol. He was removed to the jail, and on the inquest gave a contradictory, confused statement of the affair; said, "the woman was trying to get into the room to kill me; I cocked the pistol when I saw she was going to kill me; I shot the bullet and it went plumb through her heart." He also made other statements giving a different version of the affair. An investigation was made before the County Judge; he was declared insane and

sent to the Asylum. On admission he gave a very long history of his case, justified the shooting on the ground "that his stepmother had attempted to poison him, and that God had ordered him to send her to hell without a moment's warning;" that he had shot the man "because he had brought him bad water to drink." He was thin in flesh; conjunctivæ pearly, tongue heavily coated, features sharp, and skin pale. He had two sinuses opening into palm of left hand, one between ring and fourth finger of right hand, one on left foot near big toe, and one in same position on right foot. For the first few days he was about the ward, talked incessantly, maintained his assertions as to the killing, and its justification, then became more feeble; was complaining, fault-finding, whining in speech and childish, asked for changes in room, in bed, in diet, ate and slept well, though he asserted he did not. After some two weeks there appeared an extensive swelling of the left leg and foot, resembling somewhat phlegmonous erysipelas. The skin was raised in large patches, and blood and serum were effused beneath. There were some ten or more sinuses in region of buttocks discharging a purulent serum. The patient grew more feeble, and was evidently failing. Three days afterward, at about midnight, he had an extensive hemorrhage; when physician reached the bedside the bleeding had ceased. He was pale and cold, complained of chilliness, and teeth were chattering. Under the buttocks was a large pool of blood, and the abdomen was swelled and painful. He seemed perfectly conscious that he was sinking, and died at six o'clock in the morning.

Autopsy.—External appearances. Abdomen tympanitic. Left leg much swelled by infiltration of serum, and had large gangrenous ulcer eight by four inches. Another ulcer extended over arch of left foot toward internal malleolus. A deep sinus existed near head of left fibula. On the right were two sinuses, one opening between great and second toes, and another more superficial near ankle joint. On right knee was an inflamed spot two inches in diameter, the skin was elevated by dark colored effusion beneath. A deep sinus opened between thumb and index finger of left hand, and another between ring and little finger of same hand. There was also one corresponding to this on the right hand. The sinuses opening in sacral and gluteal region, some ten in number, were found to communicate with each other, and formed a common abscess. Some of them were filled with thick yellow pus, and others with partly disorganized blood-clots.

Head.—Calvarium thin and soft; slight adhesion between dura mater and arachnoid; small amount of serous effusion under arachnoid; more abundant about medulla and base of brain. Brain tissue pale.

Thorax.—Small quantity of serum in pleuritic cavities. Lower lobe of left lung hepatized. Pericardial sac distended with about three ounces of a greenish fluid.

Heart.—Substance pale; right ventricle filled with frothy, watery blood; left ventricle empty; valves normal.

Abdomen.—Whole cavity distended with pus and serum, of a greenish color. Omentum firmly bound to intestines, and these to each other by adhesions. On attempting to remove the omentum, the intestines were torn through. The ileum was gangrenous near caecal valve, and other portions of it were deeply congested and softened. Transverse colon highly inflamed; mesentery deeply congested, and the glands much enlarged and filled with cheesy material. Peyer's patches enlarged and ulcerated; pelvic cavity filled with a very offensive yellow pus; pancreas soft and of a yellow color; spleen contracted. Both kidneys were enlarged, and capsules easily detached.

Liver.—Convex surface covered with a thin layer of pus and lymph; tissue pale and fatty.

Microscopic examination of liver showed extensive fatty degeneration. In fresh specimens, treated with ether, fat was dissolved.

The tubuli-uriniferi were enlarged and contained either an entire cast, or a portion of one, and transverse sections showed them choked up with debris of epithelium. Connective tissue was granular, particularly about the Malpighian bodies. The pancreas was in a state of fatty degeneration.

CASE LVI.—Admitted July, 1873. Man, aged 57, widower, two children, intemperate, native of Ireland. Was a case of chronic mania, had been insane for an unknown length of time, and a year before admission had been declared so by a commission. Then had hallucinations of hearing, and was suspicious that persons had formed a scheme to take his life. Was sent to Ward's Island Asylum. After being there about two weeks, his wife finding him quiet and comfortable, took him home on a pass. He had been home about a week when he attacked his wife and daughter with a hand-saw. He killed his wife, injured his daughter severely, and then tried to cut his own throat with a razor. This attempt was frus-

trated by his daughter, who called a policeman who took charge of him. He remained in the Tombs for some nine months; when on trial he was declared insane and sent to the Asylum. While here he continued quiet; always denied that his wife was dead, and asserted that "she would be to see him some fine day." Was indifferent, incoherent and foolish in speech. After about a year he was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE LVII.—Admitted May, 1873. Man, aged 38, married, butcher, Lutheran, intemperate, native of Germany. He committed the homicide in Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he appeared as a tramp, went from house to house begging food and lodgings. He applied at a farmer's house at breakfast time; at the suggestion of the wife the husband told him to split wood in the shed until they were through eating when he should be fed. The farmer went into the wood-shed with him, the patient felled him at once with a single blow with an axe. Death followed within a short time. He was arrested the same day, in May, 1873. The circumstances attending the murder, the utter indifference of the prisoner to his fate, and even to the preparations for defense, suggested the propriety of an examination into his mental condition. I was sent for by the District Attorney, to conduct such an examination. He was found to be insane and to entertain a variety of delusions, which affected especially his relations with others, asserted that his wife entered into other women, and that a little girl in the prison yard was his wife, that he owned all the whore houses in the world, and controlled their inmates, that he could do anything, as God had given him power, that he could not be killed by all the people in the world, that he hit a man with an axe but he was not dead but was in the air, that the man asked him to chop wood, and that no man had a right to ask him to do anything, that a voice told him he had a right to go to every place and ask for everything, and everybody must give it. He was filthy in his habits, washed his person in his urine, and said he kept himself clean in this way; he was incoherent in his ideas, was easily excited and as readily controlled. A commission appointed declared him insane, and he was sent to the Asylum, at Utica, while here he was quiet, indifferent, incoherent, careless in his habits, ate voraciously, occasionally manifested irritability, but was not violent. History subsequently obtained showed he had been insane a long time. After a few months he was transferred to the Asylum for Insane Criminals.

CASE LVIII.—Admitted January, 1875. Woman, married, two children, age 35, common education, drinks, native of Ireland, not hereditary. She had lived happily with her husband who was a laboring man, engaged in cleaning the street cars. He went early to his work and returned about seven o'clock for his breakfast. She was in the habit of drinking, taking mostly ale, and rarely if ever becoming intoxicated. For some nine years had been subject to attacks of epilepsy, occurring at irregular and infrequent intervals. The day before the homicide had moved, doing much of the lifting, and carrying up and down stairs of her furniture. On the morning she arose at six o'clock and went down stairs for fuel with which to make the fire. Her two children, a boy of six and a girl of four were asleep in the adjoining room. As she went up stairs with the wood in her arms, she felt one of her fainting fits coming on, and calling for assistance upon her neighbor hurried to her room. At this point her recollection of subsequent events ceased. It is in evidence before the commission, by the neighbor, that she went in and found the woman in an epileptic fit, but unfortunately went out before she recovered. At a little before seven a violent pounding was heard upon the inside of the door, accompanied by cries of help from the little boy saying, "Mamma is putting the baby upon the stove." The person aroused finding the door locked went into the hall and climbing up by the fire escape saw the mother holding her little girl upon the stove, and heard her say, "Take me off the stove Mamma and I'll not tell Papa." The witness saw neither fire nor smoke. The father returned with his brother; he found the room filled with smoke and steam, and his wife standing by the stove trying to put a rimmer on. The central piece and the other two were afterward found at the bottom of the grate, covered with the wood and coal. She had such a dazed, vacant stare, that his first exclamation was "wife are you drunk?" She made no reply to this or any subsequent question. On looking for the children, he found the little girl in bed and she had on a clean night gown. She cried out piteously that her mother had burnt her on the stove. He took her up and found the night gown unsoiled by black or smoke. On raising this he found the short undershirt tinged a deep yellow hue, and that it emitted the smell of burning wood. The nates, posterior, aspect of the thighs and calves, and the soles of the feet were burned in varying degrees, from a destruction of the skin, to a roasting of the tissue, till it could be best compared to the rind of roasted pork. A physician was summoned. The mother continued

dazed and insensible, and to repeated questions from the brother-in-law, as to the meaning of what had transpired, replied, "I don't know, I feel sick." She went immediately to bed, and slept heavily till late in the forenoon, when she was aroused by the physician, and urged to get up. The child lived thirty-six hours, and though in the same room, the mother manifested no interest in its sufferings, took no notice of its cries, and had to be compelled, by command, to give it a drink of water. She did not speak unless spoken to; appeared listless and apathetic, and moved about as if asleep. She was indicted for the murder of her child, and her counsel, assigned by the Court, pleaded insanity as her sole answer. The Court then appointed a commission to report upon the fact of her mental sanity at the date of the offense. The conclusion of the Commissioners was that she had long suffered from epilepsy, that on the day of the homicide, November 20, 1874, she was attacked by a seizure, from the consequences of which she was not freed for the space of thirty-six hours; that while within the shadow of the epileptic circle she did not know the nature, nor intend the consequences of the act she was performing, by reason of mental aberration, the product of disease, and was in consequence within the intent and meaning of the statute, insane and irresponsible. The presiding justice, Josiah Sutherland, having approved the finding of the Commission, an order was made for her commitment to the Asylum, where she now is. I have condensed the preceding history from the report of the case, by Dr. John Ordronaux, State Commissioner in Lunacy, and one of the Commissioners, in the *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INSANITY*, April, 1875.

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